Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-93-122 *28 June 1993*

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Cuba

Agreement With Russia Signed

FL2506223493 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1933 GMT 25 June 93

[Text] Cuba and the Russian Federation have signed an agreement to ratify consultations between their respective foreign ministries (?on) bilateral relations and to strengthen relations between the two countries. Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Mamedov and Cuban Acting Foreign Minister Fernando Ramirez Estenoz signed this agreement, which both parties consider extremely important.

Vice Foreign Ministers Ramon Sanchez-Parodi and (Mario Rodriguez) were present at the signing of this agreement between Cuba and Russia, as was Arnold Kalinin, Russian Federation ambassador to Cuba.

Ramirez Estenoz said that the long-standing and traditional relations between the countries are reaffirmed through the signing of this document.

Robaina Speaks on U.S. Position, Expanding Ties With PRC

FL2506195093 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Today in Beijing, Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina denied there is a Cuban policy toward the United States; it is merely a response to Washington's attacks for over three decades. During a meeting with Chinese media representatives and PRENSA LATINA, Robaina stressed that Cuba is presently not a priority for the present U.S. Administration which faces other issues and domestic problems. We see and greatly respect how present U.S. authorities are dealing with us. We are pleased by the fact that language as aggressive as that of the previous administration is not being used. Robaina pointed out that Cuba prefers for the United States to take its time in making decisions on Cuba. Robaina added that there are issues that someday will need to be discussed jointly, such as the 30-plus-year-old blockade against Cuba, the Guantanamo Naval Base, and the imposition of radio and television stations.

Robaina also talked about the process of Latin American integration and the importance of this discussion in the forthcoming Ibero-American Summit.

Robaina's week-long trip to the PRC concluded today. He affirmed that Beijing and Havana will take specific steps to enhance bilateral relations.

Robaina Arrives in Rome To Meet With Cuban Ambassadors

FL2606153493 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1401 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina arrived in Rome on 26 June for a two-day visit during which he will meet with Cuban ambassadors in Europe. Robaina stated in Beijing that Rome is a stopover on his way to Geneva where he will attend the UN Economic and Social Council conference.

During the week-long trip to the PRC, Robiana visited several socioeconmic centers and met with high-level Chinese government officials. Robaina headed the Cuban delegation to the UN World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna.

Government Says No Obstacles to Visit by Pope

PA2606183993 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Roberto Morejon commentary]

[Text] The Cuban Government says there are no political obstacles to an eventual visit by the pope to the island, but oddly enough the Western media insist that the contrary is true.

Ricardo Alarcon, president of the Cuban Assembly, recently told the Italian news agency ANSA that if the pope wants to come to Cuba he is welcome. Alarcon said relations between the Cuban Government and the Vatican are normal. Speculations on the pope's proposed visit to Cuba increased as a result of an announced trip to America in August.

It is true that the Cuban people are immersed in tasks that cannot be delayed due to their direct link to the people's survival as a result of the serious harm inflicted on the local economy by the collapse of the socialist bloc, the aggravation of the U.S. blockade, and adverse weather. However, all of those things do not preclude a visit by the pope, who would naturally be welcomed by the faithful and courteously received by the rest of the Cubans. The Western media should not make this the center of its campaign and underestimate other aspects of relations between the Cuban Government and believers.

With the triumph of the revolution, the island's hierarchy adopted a stand in opposition to the process. The alienation was reduced, however, when the church adopted a more realistic approach. The improved Church-government relations are illustrated by the Cuban Assembly's approval of constitutional amendments that consider Cuba a layman's [words indistinct] and forbid discrimination for religion reasons.

The Fourth Communist Party of Cuba Congress amended its statutes to admit believers as members, who should now look favorably on the revolution. In addition, authorities are still calling all Cubans to unify, regardless of creed, to overcome the present difficulties. The international media talk little of this constructive stand, which paved the way for three Protestant civilians' to go to the Assembly and encouraged the spirit of coordination.

Apart from the importance of the Pope's eventual visit to Cuba, which depends on the arrangement of sometimes complex details, a new stage in the relationship between the government and believers has begun in Cuba.

Robaina Meets With Vatican Secretary of State

PA2706034293 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina was received in Rome by the Vatican Secretary of State Jean Louis Tauran, with whom he discussed the Caribbean island's Catholic community and the relationship between that church and the Cuban Government.

The meeting between Robaina and Monsignor Tauran began the Cuban top diplomat's two-day private visit to Italy, where he is scheduled to meet with representatives of the Cuban diplomatic corps in Europe. Subsequently, Cuba's foreign minister will travel to Geneva, where he will participate at a UN Economic and Social Council meeting. Roberto Robaina came to Rome from the PRC, where he was on an official visit for several days. During the visit—labelled as successful—the numerous coincidences between the two nations' positions on issues linked to national sovereignty and independence were stressed.

Cultural, Scientific Cooperation Signed With France

FL2606175193 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Cuba and France just signed the act of the ninth meeting of the Joint Committee for Cultural, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation. Isabel Allende, The Cuban Foreign Ministry representative, and Andre Ballen, adjunct ambassador for cultural, scientific, and technical affairs of the French Foreign Ministry, signed the document. The document comprises important actions which give continuity and develops the productive cooperation established in these fields for almost 20 years between both countries, particularly in teaching French, cultural and scientific exchanges in agronomy, health, and biomedical research, and regional cooperation in the Caribbean.

Belgian Delegation Arrives on Official Visit

PA2706172293 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] (Lou Durk), vice president of the Association of Western European Parliamentarians Against Apartheid, who is also a member of the Belgian Flemish Social Christian Party, continues with his broad agenda during his visit to Cuba. He has visited points of interest and met with leaders and officials of the Cuban Government.

The Belgian delegation was received on 26 June by Ricardo Alarcon, president of the Cuban parliament; Abel Prieto, president of the Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba; and Pedro Ross, secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers.

Performance at Human Rights Conference Deemed Success

FL2706222793 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] The World Conference on Human Rights, in which 171 countries participated, ended on 25 June in Vienna, Austria. A majority of observers feel the conference's greatest success lies in the fact that the industrialized world was unable to impose its criteria regarding human rights on the rest of mankind. Neither was it able to change the principles that have governed international relations over the past 50 years, such as sovereignty, independence, and noninterference in nations' internal affairs.

Special envoy Lazaro Barredo has the following report on the role played by the Cuban delegation:

[Begin recording] Cuba truly came out of the world summit on human rights with very successful results. In fact, Cuba received congratulations from the heads of delegations from various countries. Numerous heads of delegations approached the Cuban bench to greet Ambassador Jose Perez Novoa, including a large group of representatives of western countries who felt Cuba had acted in a very distinguished way at this world conference: Cuba's flexibility, its constructive positions, and Cuba's stand based on principle.

Indeed, we must say that the Cuban Government's delegation was able to get into the final Vienna declaration all the ideas that, during the preparatory committee work, it intended to include.

Personally, I think it is not just a Cuban victory. It has been, rather, a victory on the part of Latin America, because at the San Jose meeting, at the beginning of this year, Latin America's representatives reached agreement on the essential points of this conference; and virtually all aspects set forth by Latin America in San Jose are reflected in the final declaration of the Vienna World Conference on Human Rights. [end recording]

Politburo Member Meets With Ghanaian Delegation

PA2706191093 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Jose Ramon Balaguer, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo, received in Havana a Ghanaian delegation on an official visit to Cuba. The delegation is headed by (Judy Jaijahana), secretary general of the National Democratic Congress, and Cecilia Johnson, secretary general of the 31 December feminist movement.

The parties analyzed the development of bilateral ties in various fields and discussed topics of common interest regarding the international situation, particularly in Africa.

Memorandum on Cooperation Talks Signed in Bonn

FL2606012993 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] In Bonn today, German and Cuban Government representatives signed a memorandum establishing future talks on cooperation in the economic sphere. The parties agreed to continue analyzing the applicability of some 30 cooperation agreements out of a total of 90 such agreements adopted before German reunification in 1990. Among these agreements are those having to do with Berlin's supplying Havana with powdered milk, and with Germany's constructing and equipping the (Caimarioca) nickel extraction and refining plant in eastern Cuba.

Havana Notes House Funding for Radio Marti

FL2606021693 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] The anti-Cuban radio and television broadcasts suffered a financial blow that could affect their continuation next year. After an heated debate yesterday in the Appropriations Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, the congressmen rejected a request by the State Department to fund $16 million for the so-called Radio Marti, and approved a little over half of what was requested. The request for $12 million to continue operating the anti-Cuban television station was rejected and no alternate plan for its financing was approved. The House must vote on the measure next week, which later goes to the Senate.

Roundup of Economic Activity Reported 18 - 25 Jun

FL2506192793

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of fileworthy reports on economic developments in Cuba carried on Havana radio and television in Spanish between 18 June and 25 June.

Radio Rebelde at 1700 GMT on 18 June reports that the distribution of an EC donation worth over $400,000, made to the Cuban Red Cross, will begin next week to victims of the so-called storm of the century. A Red Cross official reports that 18 containers with approximately 127 tons of food products, various kinds of soaps and articles of personal hygiene, household cleaners, articles for domestic use—such as glasses, plates, flatware, linens, mattresses, and kerosene stoves—arrived in late May. The official adds that distribution will begin in Villa Clara Province, the province hardest hit by the storm, and then continue in Cienfuegos and the nation's westernmost provinces.

Rebelde adds that Antonio Rodrigo Torrijos, secretary general of the provincial Union of Workers Committees of Seville, Spain, has made a donation of powdered milk, anti-inflammatory agents, vitamins, and antibiotics worth over $15,600 to the Manuel Ascunce Domenech Clinical and Surgical Hospital in Camaguey. In addition to the Camaguey donation, office supplies were donated to the Cuban Workers Federation in Havana, and medicines to Pinar del Rio Province.

Rebelde also notes that the machine shop of the Noel Fernandez Sugar Mill has produced over 400 industrial valves of various diameters, thereby avoiding having to import them. The work team's target goal is 1,000 valves for the year. These valves, with diameters of between 2 and 14 inches, cost, on the internatinoal market, from $287 to $1,463; and Camaguey needs some 550 such industrial valves for repairs to the sugar mill.

Radio Rebelde at 2300 GMT on 18 June reports that EC representative Eduardo Lechuga has announced a plan to coordinate further monetary grants to Cuba to help overcome the damage caused by recent adverse weather. Lechuga pointed out that the EC has already given Cuba between $650,000 and $670,000, in addition to medicine donations. This year's aid will be between $350,000 and $400,000. Lechuga stresses that future grants are dependent on what his delegation concludes after analyzing the Cuban situation.

Cuba Vision Network at 2220 GMT on 22 June reports that the director of Santiago de Cuba's fish farm unofficially estimates that close to 60 tons of fish were lost to the recent rain.

Radio Reloj at 1930 GMT on 23 June reports that an association in Rosario, Argentina, has made a modest donation of medicine for the treatment of mouth diseases. The donation was made during the Latin American meeting on primary dental care, taking place on the Isle of Youth.

Radio Rebelde at 2300 GMT on 23 June announces the total 1992 national cost of social security: over 1.286 billion pesos for 1,218,260 beneficiaries.

Radio Reloj at 1435 GMT on 24 June reports that the Sol Melia group from the Canary Islands signed an accord with Cubanacan to manage and market the Coibar Hotel in Havana in order to increase efficiency. The 340-room, five-star hotel, scheduled for completion early next year, will be called the Melia-Coibar. Its 500-seat hall will cater to conventions. The Sol Melia group will also build the Melia-Habana Hotel in Playa Municipality. The Melia-Las Americas, to be completed next year, will be the group's third holding in Varadero.

Radio Reloj at 1406 GMT on 25 June reports that the Tropicoco Hotel, formerly the Mar Azul Hotel, has been transformed during the six months since its November opening. To date, the hotel has welcomed 45,500 international tourists at a profit of $580,200. The occupancy

rate is 80 percent. This summer the hotel will welcome Mexican tourists in addition to its regular Canadian visitors.

Commentary Views Solutions to Energy Problem

PA2606213093 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Commentary by Miguel de la Guardia Hernandez]

[Text] The fuel shortage is one of the main problems of the economic crisis affecting Cuba. Until not long ago, Cuba received from the former USSR more than 12 million tons of crude oil per year, all of which was refined at Cuban installations. In less than three years, the fuel supply in Cuba has dropped 40 percent and the Cuban people have had to cope with the situation and move their economy with less fuel.

The current phase, known as the special period, has been positive in the sense that it has been necessary to reduce energy consumption further. This is being done through fuel rationing, conservation, and by increasing efficiency in industry and transportation. The National Assembly, which will begin its second period of regular sessions on 28 June, is bent on strengthening those measures and encouraging regular participation in the country's economic life.

Through an intensive exploration of its oil resources and the incorporation of modern technology, Cuba has been increasing its domestic oil production. In 1992, the country produced more than 860,000 tons of crude oil. That figure is expected to increase to 1.3 tons this year. This will permit the use of a large part of this national production to generate electricity, reduce import requirements in that field, and progressively secure energy reserves.

Cuba's oil refining capacity—more than 12 million tons per year—will enable Cuba to conduct advantageous negotiations with other oil producers.

An important energy project, the nuclear energy plant in central Cienfuegos Province, is pending completion as a result of the USSR's disappearance. Negotiations are being held with Russia and other countries to complete this important project. This nuclear energy plant would contribute decisively to resolve Cuba's energy problems, as its two reactors would replace the use of 600,000 metric tons of fuel each and would result in the saving of 1.2 million tons of oil. This would guarantee the stability of electricity service throughout the country, and make it possible to increase fuel supplies in other basic areas of the Cuban economy.

In its next period of regular sessions, the Cuban National Assembly will draft a plan that could be decisive in resolving the energy problem in Cuba.

Tourist Development Coordination Group Formed

FL2506223393 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1937 GMT 25 June 93

[Text] The main objective of the Tourism Development Coordination Group [grupo de coordinacion para el desarrollo del turismo] that has been formed in Santiago de Cuba is to get the society and the economy in shape to handle the tourist industry. Represented in this group are all entities, tourism corporations, and service organizations in the province involved in logistics and in providing services and care for vacationers from the time visitors arrive at the airport until they leave.

Among the group's objectives is maximum exploitation of the region's natural potential and historical and cultural roots, as well as the local color and other distinctive regional elements.

Sugarcane Planting, Weeding Fall Behind Schedule

FL2606020493 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] This month, manual weeding and planting, tasks essential to sugarcane recovery, have not achieved the expected results. For differing reasons, the areas being worked on are far from meeting their goals and the needs of the times.

This topic was covered today by reporter Juan Varela Perez in his commentary on the sugar harvest. In planting, for example, the country has met only 57 percent of what was planned. The fields that have been hand weeded represent only 45 percent of the goal for a month in which the weeds grow as fast as the sugarcane.

Sugarcane recovery must be an ongoing effort. To view it in terms of days or weeks would be a great mistake. Nothing is gained if weeding was effective between January and April, and then in May and June the work slacks off and weeds damage the cane and block growth.

Varela Perez points out in his commentary that achieving a good sugar harvest requires continuity, which can be achieved only when goals are met without readjustment and stumps are replaced properly so that later, during the period of estimating and harvesting the fruits of that daily effort can be seen.

We mention only planting and weeding, two of the tasks that are so important at the moment and that directly influence yields. We need greater sugar harvests and these are obtainable only if cane production is increased and the volume of sugarcane amply exceeds the figures of the last two campaigns.

This is why there is no alternative to increasing the rate of planting, concentrating the resources that may be needed for manual cleaning, and protecting the cane during the crucial period that determines its growth.

Later may be too late. The sugarcane harvest is a daily task on the 733 farms and 3,925 lots in the country.

Crombet Stresses People's Energy Conservation Efforts

FL2606143393 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0900 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] The people's participation in energy conservation and efficiency efforts was stressed by Jaime Crombet, vice president of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] and vice president of the Council of Ministers. During a news conference, Crombet highlighted the role of the Temporary Energy Commissions and the importance of including the subject of energy in the program of the first period of sessions of the ANPP.

Crombet added that provincial deputies and delegates have visited thousands of work centers to study the energy conservation potential. This has revitalized and reinforced the efforts of the masses to solve problems of national relevance.

Commentary on Work of People's Councils

PA2706042093 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] During these very trying times for the nation, the Cuban legislature will initiate a new session on 28 June. At this time, various local problems and the peoples' efforts to get by with dignity during this so-called special period, marked by economic shortages and other problems, will be analyzed.

If we are going to talk about creative efforts to live appropriately amidst unusual difficulties, there is nothing better than to analyze, although briefly, the work of the People's Councils. According to Assembly President Ricardo Alarcon, these are the most efficient tools to mobilize the people's creative capacity and initiative.

The People's Councils were created in October 1990, when the whole community demanded more effective participation in decisionmaking. In addition, they allow the application of specific solutions to difficulties in each area. This important local government structure has not only strengthened the authority and the work capacity of its delegates but has also organized all the existing forces in neighborhoods and towns, motivating the development of their creative capacity, and put to work immobilized or idle material and human resources.

Since their creation, the People's Councils have undertaken a comprehensive and multilateral task. They have been a very dynamic group that supports its delegates without allowing any wrongdoing. In the Cuban capital 93 People's Councils, with an average of 24,000 residents per Council, work in a seven square-km area. The organization also includes the nearly 1,500 delegates to the municipal assemblies, more than 600 economic institutions, and 260 representatives of other organizations.

During their daily work, the People's Councils have made their presence felt in the following activities: trade, services, and the food industry. They have helped the community solve all kinds of local problems such as food distribution and cutting through the bureaucracy. They have sponsored cultural, recreational, and sports events, among other things. It must be said that the People's Councils not only have joined and strengthened the tasks of local groups but have also promoted the participation of companies, organizations, and institutions in solving the community's and the [words indistinct] problems. Currently it is common to see businessmen and groups of workers concerned with the development of their neighborhood. They support the delegates in the repair of supply units, schools, and streets by furnishing a work force and supplies. They also contribute to the community by promoting recreational and cultural activities and the development of local industry. The legislative session to be initiated shortly will analyze certain experiences and perspectives of the People's Councils because they are important links in perfecting Cuban institutions.

Views of Veterans Association Explained

FL2506231593 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1944 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] The organizing commission, which is responsible for the preliminary work for the establishment of the Association of Combatants of the Revolution, was formed in Camaguey Province. The commission is headed by Colonel Rafael Victoria Guevara, member of the Rebel Army, internationalist soldier, and official of Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] in Camaguey Province. Among the main goals of the Association of Combatants of the Revolution will be the unconditional defense of socialism, support for the patriotic military effort, and participation in defense tasks.

This new social group will be made up of volunteer veterans of the Rebel Army, Bay of Pigs, and the clandestine struggle against bandits, among others. Lazaro Vazquez, a member of the Central Committee and first secretary of the PCC in Camaguey, chaired the ceremony that established the organizing commission.

Graduating Foreign Students Number 3,553

FL2606020993 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Three thousand five hundred fifty-three young foreigners will be finishing their studies in Cuba within the next few days, in three basic categories: mid-level technicians, higher-level technicians, and skilled workers. Of this group of students, 2,239 will be completing their studies at centers (?attached to) the Ministry of Education; and of those future graduates, 1,022 are studying at institutions located on the Isle of Youth.

Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and Burkina Faso are among the countries contributing the greatest numbers of these students.

Justice Minister Reiterates Determination To Fight Drugs

FL2606011693 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] In Havana today, Justice Minister Carlos Amat reiterated Cuba's willingness to cooperate with all countries, including the United States, in fighting narcotics trafficking and its consequences. There exists an iron political will to thwart trafficking in our country and offshore waters, Amat said during a seminar on this matter on the eve of the United Nations' World Day Against Using and Trafficking in Drugs.

Amat explained that Cuba currently holds signed agreements of cooperation in that area with Mexico, Jamaica, and Venezuela, as well as a memorandum of understanding with Colombia, in addition to (?having held) talks with other nations on similiar agreements.

Regarding the United States, Amat said an understanding in practice has existed in the past, and information on drug trafficking operations affecting the two countries has been exchanged in the past for strategic purposes.

Inter-Caribbean Affairs

Caricom Summit Agenda Lists 14 Topics

FL2706221293 Bridgetown CANA in English 2154 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, June 27, CANA—Caribbean Community (Caricom) leaders face a 14 point agenda when their 14th annual summit begins July 4 in Nassau, capital of The Bahamas.

A copy of the draft agenda obtained by the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY, indicates that plans for celebrations to mark the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Chaguaramas which established Caricom, will be finalised.

The celebrations were expected to begin with a regional youth day on July 4.

Official sources told CANA that of the 14 items, the one expected to raise the most heat will be the discussion on relations between Caricom and Cuba.

The proposal for a joint Cuba/Caricom commission is before the heads but differences have surfaced at pre-conference meetings. It is believed that some countries wish to include the Cuba issue on the same billing, with the plan for an Association of Caribbean States (ACS).

The ACS is also on the agenda and CANA has been told that an operational plan for the grouping prepared by regional technocrats, will be put before the heads.

On Friday, Caricom chairman, Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Patrick Manning, said non-Caricom countires had "shown a very positive attitude" towards such an association in talks with Caricom envoy former Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley.

Manley was mandated by Caricom heads to sound out the leaders of Central and Latin America countries which may form part of the ACS.

Two other items on the agenda for the summit include relations between Caricom and Latin America and Caricom and Central America.

A request from Puerto Rico for observer status within Caricom and the continuing crisis in Haiti will also engage the attention of the heads of government. Caricom officials, however, are not yet certain if deposed President Jean Bertrand Aristide will get an invitation to attend the summit.

Caricom has been closely involved in the latest round of diplomatic initiatives at both the Organisation of American States and United Nations levels to reinstate Aristide.

The leader of a civilian mission mounted by the OAS and the UN in Haiti is Trinidadian diplomat Colin Granderson.

The leaders will also receive updated reports on the special areas assigned to countries at the St. Kitts summit in 1991. There has been indications recently from Trinidad and Tobago that the move towards a common regional currency which was that country's assignment may be stalled due to the floating of three currencies in the region.

Twice in the last eight days, Manning has indicated that a common currency may no longer be valid in the context of the floating of the Jamaica, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago dollars.

On Friday, he argued that other Caricom countries would soon have to follow the trio and that would virtually eliminate need for a common currency.

The other special areas include Guyana for free movement of skills within the community and environment and development: Grenada for free travel: Jamaica for a Caribbean stock exchange and Barbados for the creation of a single market.

The Barbadian idea for an assembly of Caribbean parliamentarians is expected to get the go ahead as part of the 20th anniversary celebrations and officials told CANA a start-up date could be as early as October.

Those discussions will form part of the agenda item that includes the Caribbean Supreme Court, a charter of civil

society, restructuring of the institutions of the community and the restructuring of the secretariat.

Also down for discussion are regional air transport issues with St. Vincent Prime Minister James Mitchell expected to deliver a report on the latest initiatives to privatise LIAT, the regional airline owned by Caricom governments.

The last two items on the agenda are tourism issues and the decades-old territorial disputes involving Guyana and Venezuela, and Belize and Guatemala.

Officials said although the agenda looks crowded, the Caricom Bureau of Heads of Government had already taken decisions on most of the items which for the most part now only require ratification by the heads.

More On Caricom Summit

FL2706220493 Bridgetown CANA in English 2053 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, June 26, CANA—The most important item on the agenda at the Caribbean Community (Caricom) heads of government conference scheduled for July 5-8 in The Bahamas is the reorganisation of the Caricom Secretariat, Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Patrick Manning has said.

Speaking at a media conference in Port of Spain during which he gave an account of his year as chairman of the regional body, Manning said different leaders would have different perceptions about what would be the most important item, citing the problems with the banana issue in the case of Windward Islands leaders.

Manning said the stage was set for the implementation of a number of decisions "that we consider critical in the context of Caribbean integration".

At the special summit meeting last October in Port of Spain, the Caricom leaders accepted 20 of the more than 200 recommendations of the West Indian Commission, including the proposed establishment of an Association of Caribbean States.

"The secretariat is not structured at this time to properly implement them and we have had to go out of existing arrangements to retain the services of Mr (Michael) Manley (the former Jamaica prime minister) to promote the Association of Caribbean States and do the consultation that is necessary, a prerequisite to its formation," Manning said.

"And that is only one example. But when we reorganise the secretariat that will now be handled in-house. In fact the secretariat will be reorganised in such a way that the secretary general will be in a position to discharge that function. That's merely one of them and there are so many others," Manning said.

Manning said the issue of the Caricom/Cuba joint commission was discussed by the Caricom bureau at its recent meeting in Nevis and would also engage the attention of the heads in Nassau.

Manning said the issue of drug trafficking was not on the agenda for the summit although he admitted that it was a major problem for this part of the world.

The prime minister said that Colombia was a major producer of drugs, with its markets in North America and western Europe.

"For precisely the same reasons that Trinidad and Tobago is a logical business and financial centre of the Caribbean and a gateway to the Americas, for that very same reason Trinidad and Tobago emerges as a very prime candidate to be a trans-shipment point for drugs from the producing countries to the countries that consume.

"We have known that for some time and we have been taking steps to deal with the problem. The problem is not easy to deal with. If it were so, many countries would have done it already," Manning said.

On Haiti, Manning said the actions of the United Nations have been prompted very much by the initiatives of the Caribbean territories, first through the Organisation of American States and secondly through the Security Council of the United Nations.

"We have offered Trinidad and Tobago as a venue for the talks between Mr (Raoul) Cedras and Mr (Jean-Bertrand) Aristide," Manning revealed. The meeting takes place on Saturday on an island off New York.

Haiti

Cedras To Meet With President Aristide in New York

Cedras Addresses Nation on Meeting

FL2606134693 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French 1030 26 June 93

[Speech by Raoul Cedras, Army Commander in Chief, in Port-au- Prince on 25 June prior to his departure to meet with President Jean-Bertrand Aristide in New York—recorded, in Creole]

[Text] Haitians here are fighting with other Haitians here. Haitians abroad are fighting with other Haitians abroad. Haitians here are fighting with Haitians abroad. Foreigners' interests make them fight even more. Division and hate are spread throughout the country. Many Haitians do not understand, and refuse to understand that power is passing while money is wasted.

The country is being destroyed. This week, the situation might get worse. The country might be paralyzed. Gas will not arrive. Food for everyone is running out. We will not have more. Children are going to die. This country, our country will disappear if all of us do not make an effort, if all of us do not decide to work together in order

to find food, for the land to resume providing food, to produce electricity, for everyone to know how to read, to build roads, hospitals for people in the cities as well as in the countryside, who are all Haitians.

This is what is called democracy. This is why I decided to travel today by myself, with only the love that I have in my heart for my wife, my children, my brother, my sister, my relatives that I am leaving in your hands. I am leaving in order to tell everyone that I am going to see them. Do not destroy the country completely.

I have decided to sit down with the father to tell him that he and I, will pass away when God decides so. However, remember, remember, Haiti will not die. God is stronger.

As I say, the country is facing many major problems that must be solved immediately. And I am sure that if he sees the situation the same way as I do, he will agree with me and Haiti will be saved. This is the last big effort I am making. (more) 261030

I do not need to know at this time whether he is right or I am right. What I am doing now is not my job. I am not president, neither am I minister, senator, or deputy. I am the Army chief, [the leader of] a lot of officers and soldiers who have families, who are Haitians, who want to live in peace with everybody in their country. I am the chief of an army that has important responsibilities, that will not let people (?sully) the soil of this country, that must have (all) Haitians respect one another, and that must establish order. I will carry out this job and nobody can prevent me from carrying it out.

I will not be here for a few days, and I do not want any shots to be fired. I do not want anybody to (?give me problems), I do not want any disorders. I will absolutely come back with good news. I would like fathers, pastors, and voodoo priests to ask God to support me, to give me courage, to enlighten me, and to make me humble.

I thank all the country's powers that have asked me to go [and attend the meeting with Aristide], that have faith in me. You [referring to the above-mentioned powers] may sleep with confidence, the Army will respect my orders (?and) all of you must cooperate with me.

Officers, warrant officers, solders of the Haitian Armed Forces, brothers of mine: on 18 November, I told you that I love you, that I respect you because I know your problems are also mine. Today, I will tell you that I know that you have faith in me and that you will keep having faith in me. I thank you for this. I am leaving so that our voices can be heard, so the entire world can understand that we are not a lot of thugs, [but] that we are true Haitians who love our country more than anyone else, who want an organized country, an army that wants to respect the law, that asks as well that they [not further identified] stop mistreating them, that asks that nobody try to involve them in politics because politics is not our job.

We have already shown that power does not interest us. We all are guardsmen and we all want to remain guardsmen respectful of the law, of the Army's law, of the country's law. I am leaving. See you soon. But do not forget, do not forget that Haiti will not die, that God is stronger.

Cedras Delegation Members Named

FL2606150693 Television Nationale d'Haitim in French 1045 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Here is a list of the members of the delegation that will accompany the commander in chief of the Haitian Armed Forces:

Colonel Carl Dorelian; Col. Martial Romulus; Col. Ernst Prudhomme; Col. Jean-Robert Gabriel, secretary of the general staff; Lieutenant Colonel Sadrac Saintil, Aide-de-Camp; Lt. Col. Pierre- Gerard Pierre, SS [as heard] doctor; Lt. Duval Poulard, security for the commander in chief; Lt. Jean-Baptiste P. Blaise, security for the commander in chief; Warrant Officer Ernst Renaud Mompoint, security for the commander in chief; Soldier Jean-Clair Louis, security for the commander in chief; Adjutant Regine Daniel, OA [as heard] secretary; Ambassador Serge E. Charles, political adviser; Amb. Evans Francois, political adviser; Attorney Menant Pierre-Louis, legal adviser; Attorney Gregoire Eugene [leader of the Haitian Social Christian Party], legal adviser; Mr. Didier Cedras, private secretary; Mrs. Yanick D. Prosper, secretary; Mrs. Camille Douby, secretary; (Mrs. Edwidge Ken Debaltavi); and Mr. Serge Beaulieu [director and owner of Radio Liberte, often labelled as a pro-macoute radio station)), journalist. (endall) 261045

More on Delegation Members

FL2606143193 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French 1030 GMT 26 June 93

[Text] A delegation of 21 persons will accompany General Cedras to New York. It includes four colonels, members of the general staff and members of the Army high command. The Haitian Army will be led in the absence of General Cedras by Major-General Jean-Claude Duperval, Army second in command; the chief of the general staff, Brigadier General Philippe Biambi; and Brigadier General Henri Max Mayard, Army inspector general.

The political assistant of the UN/OAS international mediator Dante Caputo, Mr Leandro Despois, who played an important role in setting up this meeting, will also leave this Saturday on the same flight with the military delegation.

The United-States Special Charge for Haiti, Ambassador Charles Redman, already left Port-au-Prince on 25 June for Washington and New York, according to diplomatic sources.

CONACOM Urges Support for Meeting

FL2506211093 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Statement by Victor Benoit, CONACOM secretary general, in Port-au-Prince on 25 June—recorded]

[Text] For CONACOM [National Congress of Democratic Movements], the meeting on 27 June will be historical if Haiti and democracy emerge winners. Haiti will triumph, provided the resulting compromise spares this country the imposition of economic sanctions by the Security Council. It will benefit all social sectors threatened with economic and social catastrophe. Democracy will triumph if the Army agrees to depart the political scene and if the Army is granted amnesty. Democracy will triumph if the false senators and deputies of 18 January are removed and if a government of national concord is installed. Democracy will triumph if President Aristide returns to the country as soon as possible in a nonviolent contest.

CONACOM reminds all that no sacrifice is too great for national survival. Up with constitutional order! Up with national concord! With heads together and cool, we will change things. Victor Benoit, CONACOM secretary general, Port-au-Prince 25 June 93.

Metropole Reports on Summit

FL2506211293 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Everything is practically set for the Aristide-Cedras summit. The two main actors in the crisis will meet on 27 June for their initial consultations at the United Nations. The two men are meeting face to face for the first time since the coup d'etat. The last time President Aristide met with General Raoul Cedras was on 31 September 1991 at Army Headquarters in Port-au-Prince. The president had just been imprisoned by the authors of the putsch that deposed him.

On 27 June, Aristide and Cedras will meet again on the premises of the United Nations in New York. No one knows what will happen. What is certain is that such a meeting will be held in the presence of the mediator designated by the UN and the OAS, Dante Caputo, who succeeded in setting up a meeting that was considered impossible, after six months of consultation and travel between Washington, Port-au-Prince, and New York. Measures will be in effect to assure the security of the participants in this dialogue that could last several days. Demonstrations against Gen. Cedras are expected in front of the UN building.

On the negotiation table, Gen. Cedras hopes to concentrate on issues of national survival, he said in his letter to Caputo. Jean Bertrand Aristide, the president in exile, who at the last minute withdrew his previous conditions in order to facilitate the meeting, wants an open discussion that leads to a return to democracy, meaning his own return to Haiti. The ousted president intends to ask Gen. Cedras to restore his power. A first step was taken with the parliamentary vote on 15 June. Since that date, in speaking of Father Aristide in his letters to Caputo, Gen. Cedras has consistently referred to President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

The real question is whether, at the meeting on 27 June, the Army commander in chief will salute the reinstated president.

Meeting Set for 27 Jun

FL2506161193 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Negotiations for the restoration of democracy in Haiti will take place starting 27 June at UN Headquarters attended by ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and the Army chief of staff, General Raoul Cedras, according to an announcement made by international mediator Dante Caputo on 24 June. An agreement has been reached on the agenda and the venue for the talks, stated Caputo, UN/OAS special envoy for the Haitian crisis.

Mr. Aristide and Gen. Cedras have agreed to have the special envoy conduct those negotiations which will begin at 0900, local time, that is 1300 GMT, explained Caputo in an official statement. No information was immediately provided on the format of the talks scheduled to last several days. If both men negotiated face to face, it would be their first meeting since the military coup d'etat against President-elect Aristide in September 1991.

According to a reliable source, Gen. Cedras will arrive in New York on 26 June leading a 10-member delegation. In New York, draconian security measures are being prepared to counter possible demonstrations by Haitian opponents. Aruba in the Caribbean was also considered as a possible negotiation site. The White House pointed out that President-elect Aristide was ready to meet Gen. Cedras without conditions.

Some confusion prevailed in Washington and Port-au-Prince on 23 June after a communique listing preconditions was published by the government-in-exile. According to Caputo, the enforcement on 23 June of the international sanctions against the de facto Haitian regime encouraged progress in the negotiations that should hinge on a transfer of power in Port-au-Prince.

Aristide, who is in the United States, is still considered the president-elect of Haiti by the international community. He has asked that the United States, France, Canada, and Venezuela be present during the New York negotiations. A meeting between representatives of those four countries was to be held last night in New York.

Organizations To Show Support for Cedras

FL2606152193 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French 1030 GMT 26 June 93

[Text] The Alliance for Haiti's Recovery strongly supports the idea launched by several people's organizations to rally on Saturday, 26 June at the International Airport in order to hail the departure of General Cedras.

Once more, the Alliance for Haiti's Recovery is calling on the patriotism and the goodwill of all the militants to show firm support for the Haitian Armed Forces commander in chief. Up with unity! Up with national reconciliation! Abner Pierre, unity president of the people's organizations. Raoul Gustave, from the Movement For The Defense of Poor People.

Front, Union Ask Members To Support Cedras

FL2606151293 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French 1030 GMT 26 June 93

[Text] The Front Of Haitian Democratic, Nationalist Organizations is asking all like-minded Haitians to rally this Saturday, 26 June at 1300 at the International Airport in Port-au-Prince to hail the departure of General Cedras, who has been mandated by the Haitian people to negotiate with whom it may concern to find a favorable solution to the crisis that has gripped the country for nearly 21 months. We know how the general will leave. We wish to see him come back to Haiti sound and safe. A word to the wise is enough. For the Front of the Haitian Democratic and Nationalist Organizations, Emmanuel SaintFard, president.

The Union of Independent [Public] Drivers of the Republic of Haiti renews its trust in the chief commander and wishes that he would negotiate in the interest of the national majority. Therefore the union is sending a patriotic call to all its affiliated members in Cite Soleil, Caridad, Carrefour, Canape Vert, Bois Patate, to go to the airport on Saturday, 26 June to wish courage to the chief commander with the hope that the national sovereignty is respected. For the committee, Pierre Malvoisin, president.

Soldiers Attack Aristide Supporters in Church

PA2706221293 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2116 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 27 Jun (NOTIMEX)—On 27 June soldiers attacked parishioners, sympathizers of ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, during a mass at the Notre Dame Church in this capital, local media reported.

The incident took place after some of the congregation at the mass took out posters expressing support for the ousted president and started shouting: "Long Live Aristide, Down With the Army," explained Haitian television.

The report added that before the attack against the congregation, which included senior citizens, a message from Army General Raoul Cedras had been replayed. The message had been issued before he departed for Governor's Island, New York, to speak with Aristide.

The Haitian press agency, quoted by REUTER, said that soldiers arrested approximately 10 persons during the disturbance.

CONAPOP Proposes Gourgues as Prime Minister

FL2506195793 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Some positive reactions have been expressed regarding the Aristide-Cedras summit. The National Coalition of People's Organizations, CONAPOP, is congratulatory on the new concessions made by the president in exile in order to facilitate the meeting. This organization's spokesman takes the opportunity publicly to support Professor Gerard Gourgues as a neutral party, capable, according to this organization, of assuming the post of prime minister.

Dominican Military Presence Reinforced on Border

FL2506163393 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Dominican military forces are patrolling along the Haitian-Dominican border in order to prevent a possible flood of Haitian refugees to the Dominican Republic following the implementation on 23 June of the UN resolution initiating strict sanctions against Haiti. The minister of the armed forces, General Constantino Matos Delanueva, has been personally supervising the operation which consists of reinforcing the Dominican military presence on the border.

On 22 June, Dominican Vice-Chancellor Fabio Herrera Cabral announced that a possible meeting in the Dominican Republic between President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and General Raoul Cedras had been ruled out. Admitting nevertheless that it was a possibility, Mr. Cabral told the press that the meeting would not take place in the Dominican Republic. Those negotiations on the restoration of democracy in Haiti would take place in New York on 27 June.

Dominican Bishops Oppose UN Embargo Against Haiti

FL2506162093 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Excerpt] On 24 June, bishops in the Dominican Republic criticized France, the United States, and Venezuela for their support of a policy contrary to the interests of the Haitian people because of the draconian consequences of the embargo. Maguey Bishop Hugo Polanco asserted that the Haitian crisis is difficult to

resolve and that those three countries are responsible insofar as they supported the embargo at the UN Security Council.

Another bishop, (Thomas Abreu), also criticized the embargo while saying that it is the people, not the government who suffer from the sanctions. Several observers pointed out that numerous members of the Dominican ecclesiastical hierarchy are opposed to ousted Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide because of both political and doctrinal divergences.

Nevertheless, 27 North-American Catholic bishops are supporting the embargo against Haiti and President-elect Jean-Bertrand Aristide's plan to return to Haiti. In a letter sent to President Clinton on 18 June, a copy of which was published in the 23 June issue of the Creole weekly LIBETE [close to ousted President Aristide], the prelates label as immoral the forced and automatic repatriation policy practiced by the U.S. Administration against Haitian refugees, reminding Clinton that they supported him against Bush when he condemned that policy and instead proposed a new one allegedly more humanitarian in character. [passage omitted]

Jamaica

Non-bauxite Minerals Industry Development Planned

FL2506215693 Bridgetown CANA in English 1335 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, June 25, CANA—Jamaica stands a good chance of becoming a gold producer soon, according to Mining Minister Bobby Pickersgill.

"We are confident that during this fiscal year, the decision will be taken to open Jamaica's first known gold mine," Pickersgill told Parliament this week during his contribution to the 1993/94 budget debate.

Pickersgill said three major companies, including the Broken Hill proprietary company that is the third largest mining company in the world, were currently prospecting for gold.

He said the country was experiencing unprecedented activities in the exploration of non-bauxite minerals. To date 55 exploration licenses had been granted - 30 for gold, 15 for marble and 10 for high-quality limestone.

The minister, who also has reponsibility for energy and public utilities, said much remained to be done to develop Jamaica's non-bauxite mineral industry.

He suggested that Jamaica may need to develop tax and other incentive schemes to attract investors along the lines adopted by countries such as Mexico, Panama and Chile.

Noting that large deposits of high-quality limestone existed in north central and western Jamaica, Pickersgill suggested the mineral held rich promise. He pointed out that it was being increasingly used in North America to manufacture motor car parts, plastic grills and bumpers and other items.

Marble had already provided vital foreign exchange savings in the local building exchange and should soon become an export item, he said.

The government was seeking to facilitate the development of the marble industry by encouraging joint ventures with foreign-based companies, developing lines of credit, establishing quality standards and personnel training, the minister reported.

The state-owned National Development Bank would also make funds available for the industry over a three to 10 year period, he said.

Pickersgill also spoke of expansion plans for the bauxite/alumina sector, Jamaica's second biggest foreign exchange earner behind tourism, grossing US$559 million dollars last year.

He said the biggest plant, Alumina Partners of Jamaica (Alpart) which is now in the midst of an expansion and modernisation programme, was "well on its way" to producing 1.45 million tonnes of alumina per annum.

During the last four years, Alpart averaged 1.13 million tonnes annually.

Alcan Jamaica limited also had plans to increase production, he said.

Trinidad and Tobago

Steel Company Lays Off 500 Striking Workers

FL2506215593 Bridgetown CANA in English 1710 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, June 25, CANA—The strike-hit Caribbean Ispat Steel Company in Trinidad, has temporarily laid off some 500 workers who management said were deliberately attempting to shut-down the company.

"There's a deliberate strategy and we were forced to lay them off, because it's unfair to have a complement of workers who were either staying away from work or showing up to work and doing nothing," Ispat's managing director Ram Misra told CANA.

The company believes that the workers were using the ploy to support some 217 supervisory and office workers who went on strike three days ago over a breakdown in wages and salary negotiations.

The steel workers' union has been asking for an increase of between eight and 15 per cent while the company has offered up to nine per cent.

Misra said two out of three production plants have been shut down causing a daily loss of TT2 million dollars.

Salinas Presents Foreign Trade Draft Bill Initiative

PA2506191393 Mexico City Canal 13 Television Azteca Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Report by Jaime Guerrero]

[Text] President Carlos Salinas de Gortari sent Congress a foreign trade draft bill initiative intended to establish a new legal framework to consolidate foreign trade in Mexico by encouraging competition, confidence, and legal security for those who participate in the international exchange.

An explanation of the draft bill states that to encourage competitiveness in an atmosphere of fair competition, it has become necessary to review and update the legal requirements in the context of the new world economic order in view of the fact that Article 131 of the Constitution no longer meets the country's needs.

The draft bill initiative proposes the creation of a foreign trade commission to ensure that national producers operate under fair competition abroad. Likewise, the Joint Commission To Promote Exports [comision mixta para la promocion de exportaciones] has been established by law, thus giving greater legal security to brokers.

The foreign trade draft bill will also broaden the legal basis under which safeguard measures can be enforced. Thus, despite massive imports, local producers will be able to make the necessary adjustments and reallocate resources if necessary.

The draft bill also proposes making the national export prize a law to increase national export capacity.

National Defense Secretariat on Bishops' Charges

PA2606044493 Mexico City XHTV Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] The National Defense Secretariat has sent us a press release. It says:

In a document entitled Pastoral Instruction on Violence and Peace issued on 24 June 1993 and disseminated through various media, the Bishops Social Pastoral Commission charged the following, and we quote: The mafia of narcotics trafficking has specifically bought or has become associated with a significant number of public officials and military officers, inasmuch as this facilitates in a direct or indirect manner all of their actions, including the production, transfer, processing, distribution of drugs, and even money laundering operations. End quote.

To this effect, the National Defense Secretariat is waiting for these charges to be presented formally before the corresponding authorities and has provided the names of the Mexican soldiers involved so that the Judge Advocate General's Office or the Attorney General's Office may proceed according to the law.

Belize

Invasion by Guatemala Said 'Not Likely'

FL2706220293 Bridgetown CANA in English 2250 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Belize City, June 26, CANA—Guatemala's Ambassador to Belize Antonio Castellanos has given an assurance to the Belizean people that an invasion of the Central American nation by Guatemalan troops is not likely.

Castellanos gave the assurance at the weekend as he issued a four point statement on Belize/Guatemala relations following speculations that Guatemala was reasserting its century old claim to Belize.

The speculations are based on a news report on the Mexican television, Eco and on the U.S. NBC Network, that former Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano Elias is being threatened with treason suits for recognising the sovereignty of Belize.

There has been much speculation as to the fate of Belize's security with the threat against Serrano and with the recent British decision to reduce its garrison here to a training unit and subsequently the termination of its defence guarantee to Belize.

The statement issued by Castellanos re-iterated President Ramiro de Leon Carpio's statement that "the new Guatemalan Government will respect and honour all international agreements made by the State of Guatemala."

"The Government of Guatemala maintains its position in conducting its external relations and seeks the settlement of all disputes by peaceful means within the framework of international law," the Guatemalan statement said.

It goes on to say that:

"The suit brought against Serrano for the recognition of Belize's independence is a private law suit made by a group of citizens and is a matter for the judicial system and ultimately for the Constitutional Court to look into.

"The Government of Guatemala looks forward to improved relations with Belize and the forging of friendly and mutually beneficial relations between the people of Belize and Guatemala as neighbours."

So far, there has been no response to the Guatemalan Embassy statement from either the Government of Belize or the opposition.

Party Leaders Agree on Ensuring Orderly Election

FL2706220593 Bridgetown CANA in English 2307 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Belize City, June 26, CANA—With four days to go before Belize's June 30 general election, leaders of the two contesting political parties have pledged to ensure that law and order is maintained prior to and during the poll.

The People's United Party (PUP) leader, Prime Minister George Price and opposition United Democratic Party (UDP) leader Manuel Esquivel gave their commitment at the weekend to work along with the police to ensure that voting is unimpeded on election day.

At a recent meeting between Police Commissioner Kent Haylock, both leaders and chief elections officer Winston Carr, matters of mutual interest regarding the legal conduct of the elections were discussed.

El Salvador

Cristiani on Armed Forces Reforms, Peace Process

PA2706004793 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 26 Jun 93 p 5

[Text] President Alfredo Cristiani said on 25 June that the implementation reforms in the Army, within the framework of the peace accords, is practically concluded and has been carried out in a stable and disciplined way.

The president inaugurated a seminar of former Georgetown University scholarship holders at a center west of the capital. He explained that the changes within the Army high command have been carried out in part because some of its members participated in the negotiation process to reach the peace accords. Because of this, it was necessary that they continue in their posts until the accords were implemented.

President Cristiani has reported that the change of Armed Forces high command members will occur on 1 July. The high command is formed by Defense Minister General Rene Emilio Ponce, Deputy Defense Minister Gen. Orlando Zepeda, Chief of Staff Gen. Gilberto Rubio, and Assistant Chief of Staff Gen. Mauricio Ernesto Vargas, who have completed 30 years of service in the military corps.

The president said on 25 June he will withhold the new officers' names until 1 July but it was unofficially learned that Ponce may be replaced by Colonel Humberto Corado Figueroa, chief of the presidential staff.

Col. Roberto Tejada Murcia is mentioned as possible deputy defense minister, and Colonels Jaime Guzman Morales and Angel Orellana are mentioned as possible chief of staff and assistant chief of staff, respectively.

Asked his opinion of Col. Corado, Cristiani stated he recognized his merits as a professional, adding that Corado is capable and has a special following among the chiefs and officers under his command.

President Cristiani said that, despite all the ups and downs and the problems, he is satisfied with the peace

process that is under way in the country following the Chapultepec Accords, which ended the military conflict.

He added it would be a mistake to try to turn the country into a negotiating table. He termed as utopian and counterproductive the wish to solve a vast array of social problems with a few pledges, no matter how historical they may be.

Cristiani said that, regardless of their ideology, all the social groups in the country must accept the democratic game's rules and join society on an equal basis, which has been done despite the obstacles encountered in the peace process.

He insisted, however, that the irreversible character of this process has been visible since the peace accords were signed. He said he considers possible the consolidation of a framework of mutual respect if everyone participates to solve society's problems.

The president said: Salvadoran peace is institutional because its basic contents have become new institutions, new laws, and constitutional reforms. He added: Salvadoran peace is not the result of an opportunistic accord. It is an ambitious institutional change and we should all feel proud of it.

Cristiani on Evidence of FMLN-ETA Links

PA2606001193 San Salvador TCS Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] President Alfredo Cristiani has said that the links between the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] and Basque Fatherland and Liberty [ETA] are obvious. The president said the evidence speaks for itself.

According to the president, the state intelligence director's visit to Nicaragua led to the confirmation that the Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces [FPL] arms caches found in the past few weeks contained documents from the ETA and other guerrilla organizations from Brazil, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Mexico.

[Begin Cristiani recording] It shows that this is a means of financing terrorist or guerrilla movements. If you will remember, in the 1960's the FMLN began kidnapping to obtain funds to buy weapons and other things needed for logistical support of their adventures. [end recording]

According to the president, formal charges are not necessary because the evidence points to the FMLN.

[Begin Cristiani recording] We do not doubt there are other organizations involved, such as the FMLN, or the FPL in this case, and the ETA. Indications are that other groups, such as Argentine, Ecuadoran, and the Chilean Movement of the Revolutionary Left may be involved. We have information that this group also resorted to kidnapping and extortion for economic purposes. [end recording]

Investigations related to this case are under way in South American countries. The discovery of the arms caches in Nicaragua could become a find of major proportions.

Ponce on Subordination of Armed Forces to Civilian Power

PA2506221393 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Excerpt] General Rene Emilio Ponce said on 24 June that the defense minister should be a military officer rather than a civilian. He also said that does not mean the Armed Forces are not subordinate to political power, as Pedro Nique, special UN delegate for human rights, stated.

Nique said in Vienna this week that despite efforts made in the country, military power has not become subordinate to civilian power. Gen. Ponce said the Armed Forces have obeyed civilian authorities but added that a civilian defense minister is not the way the Armed Forces' subordination will be demonstrated.

[Begin Ponce recording] There are several interpretations. From the outside it would appear that military power is subordinate to political power when a civilian defense minister is appointed. To me, what we men in uniform think and are convinced of is more important. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Ponce Discusses Retirement, FMLN Weapons

PA2606025893 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] We military cannot keep our arms crossed when we see that the real transition process will begin in 1994, Defense Minister General Rene Emilio Ponce has stated. The ranking military officer said that, on retiring at month's end, he will devote himself to his family. At the same time he will consider the possibility of engaging in political activities in a moderate right- wing party, which he did not mention.

[Begin Ponce recording] I will dedicate myself, first of all, to my family. I have been separated from my family because of my mission. I am aware of the sacrifices they have had to make and appreciate their understanding. That is what I will do initially. Later, I contemplate meeting with some politicians to engage in political activities. The military definitely cannot keep our arms crossed without doing anything when we see that the real transition process is going to begin in 1994. We must defend democracy, peace, and liberty, which have cost us so much bloodshed, from another trench. That trench can be apolitical. I have still not decided what party I will join. Thus far, I have not been a member of any political party because the Armed Forces are apolitical. [end recording]

Gen. Ponce came out in favor of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] surrendering all its weapons as soon as possible to permit the country's real

democratic evolution. He reiterated that the Armed Forces remain solidly united and are necessarily subordinated to civilian power. He denied a lack of discipline in the institution.

[Begin Ponce recording] That is because we have a cadre of officers, noncommissioned officers, and troops who are disciplined, completely subordinate to legally constituted civilian political power. Although we made our observation that the FMLN was lying when it presented its weapons inventory, we continued to fulfill the peace agreements, because the government made the decision, through a negotiated political solution to the conflict. The Armed Forces, as an obedient and nonbelligerent institution, are loyal to the conviction that peace is the best thing for El Salvador and does not have a price. [end recording]

Gen. Ponce made the statement shortly after presiding over a ceremony in which the military health battalion handed out recognition awards to four Salvadoran Air Force pilots for their outstanding work in the humanitarian field during the armed conflict. During the ceremony, the military health battalion awarded medals of honor to Gen. Adolfo Blandon and the defense minister for their services in the Armed Forces. Gen. Ponce will retire late this month, after 30 years of service.

FMLN Confirms Delay in Weapons Gathering Process

PA2506185493 San Salvador Canal Seis de Television in Spanish 1230 GMT 24 Jun 93

[Text] The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] confirmed today that the weapons gathering process has still not begun. FMLN leader Leonel Gonzalez said the FMLN has not begun gathering the weapons the organization still has under its control as the process is still in its initial stages. He added that the weapons are located in very hard to reach areas. The FMLN has begun bilateral talks with the UN Observers for El Salvador [Onusal] to begin collecting all its weapons.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] The weapons are scattered all over the country. It is possible that there are no arsenals or caches but merely a collection of weapons that we buried. That is why we cannot specify the exact number of weapons we are going to surrender because we are still looking for them. We cannot specify how many depots there may or may not be, but there are not too many. We plan to gather all the weapons collected from various sites in one place and then proceed to destroy them. [end recording]

Several months ago the FMLN acknowledged the existence of residual weapons but stated that it did not know exactly where they were located. Leonel Gonzalez said on 24 June that most of the sites are mined and difficult.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] The sites are in very uneven areas and there are many ravines. The depots are located in several sites like that. That is what makes the process more difficult. What is more, most of these sites are undoubtedly still mined. [end recording]

Besides the People's Revolutionary Army and the Farabundo Marti People's Liberation Forces, the other three FMLN organizations have acknowledged that they still have weapons under their control. Leonel Gonzalez says the weapons gathering process will be quite difficult.

Gen Vargas Urges FMLN To Hand Over All Weapons

PA2606030193 San Salvador Canal Seis Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 24 Jun 93

[Report on interview with General Mauricio Ernesto Vargas, deputy chairman of the Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff, by Romeo Lemus, on 23 June in San Salvador]

[Text] [Lemus] General Mauricio Ernesto Vargas, deputy chairman of the Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff, occupied this office for years. Now, seven days before he leaves the Armed Forces, everything seems calm. Gen. Vargas will devote his time to his family, studies and, further down the line, politics.

[Begin Vargas recording] I want to finish my administrative studies. I must be ready for November. I will continue studying English four hours a day. I will also handle some family matters. [end recording]

[Lemus] During his military career, Gen. Vargas headed units on different occasions, and his greatest satisfaction is having been a member of the government Dialogue Commission and contributing to peace. He recognized mistakes were made. Before retiring, he said these mistakes were based on what they felt was most appropriate at that time.

[Begin Vargas recording] We are humans; we may have made mistakes. As humans we make mistakes because there is a limit to our capabilities. [end recording]

[Lemus] During the remainder of his term as deputy chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, he said he will go about his job as always. Before doing that, however, he had this a message for the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN].

[Begin Vargas recording] You have the responsibility to hand over everything you pledged to, please. Do not keep anything. What they handed over.... [pauses] The urban cells had 300 or 400 weapons in the city, plus others they brought into the city during the offensive, which they have not handed over. Hand them over! [end recording]

[Lemus] Gen. Vargas also talked about the defense minister and the chairman of the Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff.

[Begin Vargas recording] I feel proud to have served under Gen. Rene Emilio Ponce and Gen. Nelson Gilberto Rubio, and to have been able to do my duty for my country. I served under the most highly qualified professionals. [end recording]

[Lemus] Gen. Vargas said he will watch the peace process. In the meanwhile, however, he will devote some time to soccer.

Guatemala

Foreign Ministry Announces Review of Policy on Belize

PA2506201993 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 24 Jun 93 p 3

[Text] Foreign Relations Minister Arturo Fajardo Maldonado announced on 23 June that the diplomatic relations established with Belize during the Serrano Elias administration will be reviewed.

The foreign minister said the government is analyzing the position it will take on Belize as well as the position the previous government took by making Belize's independence official. "We are going to establish our legal position," Fajardo emphasized.

Fajardo Maldonado said the government intends to make its negotiations with Belize public when they take place, thus keeping the public informed about each step in the process to resolve the territorial and political dispute with that black Caribbean area.

President Ramiro De Leon Carpio said it will be up to the justice tribunals or the Court of Constitutionality to present the charges of treason against the fatherland against Serrano Elias and congressional deputies for recognizing Belize's independence.

The president refrained from stating his position. A few days ago Fajardo Maldonado said that he personally disagreed with the way the Serrano administration had dealt with Belize.

Deputies To Stand Trial for Recognizing Belize

PA2606194693 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 25 Jun 93 p 4

[Text] The 78 deputies who endorsed the recognition of Belize as an independent state will stand trial for treason. The second penal court of investigation is dealing with the case.

The court has asked Congress President Jose Lobo Dubon for a certified copy of the shorthand transcript of plenary session No. 48-92 to establish which deputies voted in favor of former President Jorge Serrano Elias' decision.

The shorthand transcript shows that only 24 deputies voted against Serrano's unilateral decision and 13 deputies were absent.

As may be recalled, Serrano sent Congress a copy of the Court of Constitutionality ruling on the recognition of Belize and sought the plenum's approval for the prompt establishment of diplomatic relations with Belize, the accreditation of an extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador, and approval for a Belizean ambassador.

The Ramiro De Leon Carpio administration has shown a different way of thinking and through Foreign Minister Arturo Fajardo Maldonado announced a review of political relations between Guatemala and Belize to establish the government's legal position.

When Deputy Mario Tarazena Diaz-Sol was asked about the legal proceedings against the legislators who favored Belize's independence, he replied: "It is a good formula to purge Congress and do away with all those who have betrayed the people."

The "wicked" trio (DC, UCN, MAS) [Christian Democracy, Union of the National Center, Solidarity Action Movement] backed Serrano with their arrogant actions and should back those actions in their political demise, Deputy Taracena said.

Jorge Skinner Klees (UCN), president of the Legislation and Constitutional Points Commission in Congress, said that reviewing relations with Belize was a smart decision. "The dispute over the territory between Belize and Guatemala is not a top priority and should be placed on the back burner because the current government has reorganization problems. The Foreign Ministry should first learn about and evaluate the diplomatic relations," Skinner said.

Jose Carlos Acevedo of the Change wing [National Front for Change—FNC] believes that President De Leon Carpio has the power to break diplomatic relations with Belize because the Constitution protects him. Furthermore, the trials for those responsible are sensationalist publicity, Acevedo said.

Deputy Jorge Garcia-Salas presented a draft bill for the people to vote on the territorial dispute, but the proposal was overturned by a minority vote and sent to the Legislation and Constitutional Points Commission.

Other deputies also opposed the draft bill, so Edmond Mullet, Congress president at the time, called several deputies to order and curtailed their freedom of speech within the session while others opted to form blocs in support of President Serrano.

Deputies who voted in favor: Edmond Mullet, Ernesto Contreras, Miguel Alvarez, Evelio Fuentes, Jaime Recinos, Everardo Ramirez, Elio Canales, Jose Carlos Acevedo, Juan Jose Alfaro, Berlindo Alvarez, Hector Aragon, Jorge Archilla, Carlos Arroyave, Jesus Ayerdi, Joaquin Hamaca, Maria Eugenia Castillo, Obdulio Chinchilla, Enrique Cordova, Claudio Coxaj, Joel Cualio

Soto, Miguel de la Cruz, Mario de la Cruz, Dimas de Leon, Julio Diaz, Clodoveo Dominguez, Carlos Escobedo, Jose Felipe Franco, Mario Gaitan, Olverio Garcia, Domingo Gomez, Pedro Gomez, Enrique Guillen, Derio Juarez, Eduardo de Leon, Fernando Lobo, Diego Lopez, Hector Luna Troccoli, Abundio Maldonado, Daniel Maldonado, Eduardo Matute, Hector Mayora, Eduardo Mendez, Victor Mendoza, Carlos Merida, Marco Tulio Merida, Mario Miranda, Sara Mishaan, Jorge Monroy, Felix Navarijo, Guillermo Nicolas Accimoc, Rafael Oliveros, Raul Orozco, Julio Cesar and Edgar Paiz, Ronny Pappa, Guillermo Pellecer, Fernando Pereira, Carlos Perez, Cesar Porres, Anaisabel Prera, Otto Quinonez, Francisco Reyes Ixcamey, Marco Reyes, Ricardo Roca, Rafael Rottmann, Saul Sandoval, Juan Carlos Simons, Catalina Soberanis, Eduardo Tager, David Tobar, Elder Vargas, Diego Velasco, Vinicio Villar, Oswaldo Zamora, Lionel Brolo, Carlos Alarcon, and Luis Lopez; a total of 78.

Deputies who voted against: Francisco Alfaro Mijangos, Rafael Barrios, Mario Barrios, Reynaldo Castillo, Arabella Castro, Aristides Crespo, Roberto del Cid, Luis Flores, Carlos Garcia, Carlos Garcia Regas, Jorge Garcia-Salas, Mario Mazariegos, Rodolfo Mendoza, Miguel Montepeque, Ruben Dario, Luis Quezada, Francisco Reyes Lopez, Jorge Skinner, Roberto Stein, Marco Tulio Sosa, Mario Taracena, Carlos Valle, and Froilan Villatoro; a total of 24. There were 13 deputies absent. The total number of deputies is 115.

"The appropriate courts should act according to the law," several of them said.

De Leon Carpio Holds News Conference

PA2606032893 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Jun 93

[News conference by President Ramiro De Leon Carpio with unidentified reporters; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [De Leon] We are studying the possibility of allocating funds for hospitals. In addition we are studying the possibility of having national and international organizations provide assistance to hospitals. Today I will meet with the finance minister to see how much of the funds we can allocate to the hospitals.

[Reporter] Mr. President, what happened with the [words indistinct]?

[De Leon] It has just been signed and it has just been submitted to the Congress of the Republic.

[Reporter] [words indistinct]

[De Leon] Yes, because the decree issued by the Congress of the Republic was issued before the court ruling was made public. The court ruling repealing the rate increase was not known yet. The court ruling led to the solution of a problem that was adversely affecting the Guatemalan people. As former Human Rights Ombudsman and current president, I asked that rates not be increased. I submitted a note explaining this to the honorable Congress of the Republic and telling them there is no need for such a decree, which was issued with good intentions but which was done before the court ruling was made public. There will, therefore, be no rate increase. Everything will remain the same. We have also requested the creation of a commission to review the energy problem in depth so we can issue resolutions and take measures to solve the energy problem definitely.

[Reporter] What prices and what rates will now be in effect?

[De Leon] The rates that were in effect before the new ones were authorized in March 1993. There will be no rate increase, which is what the population had requested.

[Reporter] Will the court ruling affect both the power company and the National Institute of Electrification?

[De Leon] Both.

[Reporter] [words indistinct] proposal to break relations with Belize and recall the Guatemalan ambassador in Belize. What is your opinion?

[De Leon] I will announce the government's policy on Belize at the proper time. What the foreign minister said is that the government will simply review the previous policy, which is the logical thing to do. It was a policy that had been well defined, that had been signed and accepted, therefore, I respect the agreements signed between states and international law. We will review the policy and announce the government's policy at the proper time.

[Reporter] When will the new government and agriculture ministers be appointed?

[De Leon] I am able to announce that the new government minister and the new labor minister will be sworn in on 1 July.

[Reporter] What are their names?

[De Leon] The new government minister will be Arnoldo Ortiz Moscoso, president of the Guatemalan Bar Association.

[Reporter] Who will be the new labor minister?

[De Leon] The new labor minister will be a distinguished lawyer, whose name I will announce on 1 July.

[Reporter] Panama has for the time being rejected the extradition of former President Serrano [words indistinct].

[De Leon] I have asked the Foreign Ministry and the appropriate entities to review immediately all documents and to exhaust all legal mechanisms, based on both national and international law, to get their extradition.

[Reporter] Should Serrano be in Guatemala or Panama? What can you tell us, Mr. President?

[De Leon] He should be in Guatemala being tried for the alleged crimes he committed.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] announced by the Presidency Public Relations Secretariat. There is a misunderstanding regarding the Presidency press office's duties. What is the idea behind this, since the government is talking about austerity? Is this office doing the same job as the Public Relations Secretariat? What is the idea behind this?

[De Leon] I thank you for your question because it gives me the opportunity to first ask you journalists for the appropriate excuses. We have in fact had problems with the appointment of the secretary of the information office. We have other problems that have not been solved yet, but you can be sure that the person will soon be appointed. Our austerity measures will be adopted with the purpose of complying with our duties to provide information and facilitate access to the information to our friends, journalists, both Guatemalan and foreign journalists.

[Reporter] What about the economic cabinet?

[De Leon] The economic cabinet will be announced on 28 June.

[Reporter] Will there be changes in the Army?

[De Leon] On 28 June we are going to announce the economic cabinet members. This does not mean they are being confirmed. We are just going to name the ministers who will be part of the economic cabinet.

[Reporter] The foreign minister announced you will decide if Mr. Edmond Mullet [former ambassador to the United States, who resigned on 27 May 1993 to protest Serrano's coup] stays or leaves. What do you plan to do?

[De Leon] We have decided to ask him to remain in his post while the new ambassador is appointed. There are documents to be presented and signed and important steps to be taken that have to do with U.S. economic and technical assistance to Guatemala. We believe the current ambassador should remain in his post while the new ambassador is appointed.

[Reporter] [words indistinct] reorganization?

[De Leon] Of course, there will be a reorganization in the entire executive branch at the proper time. It does not mean all employees will be changed. Some may remain. We are going to study the situation so that the executive branch reorganization is done fairly.

[Reporter] Will General Roberto Perussina abandon the Defense Ministry? Will he remain in his post? [words indistinct]?

[De Leon] [words indistinct]

[Reporter] Thank you very much.

Honduras

President Callejas Gives News Conference

PA2606175493 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1830 GMT 24 Jun 93

[News conference with President Rafael Leonardo Callejas by unidentified reporters at the Toncontin International Airport; date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] What about the 25 tons of toxic waste that have just entered Honduras?

[Callejas] I know nothing about that.

[Reporter] A television station reported that Greenpeace has denounced the fact that a vessel will arrive in Honduras with 25 tons of old tires to be used for combustion purposes at a Honduran cement company.

[Callejas] The government signed an agreement to prevent toxic products from entering the country. There is no reason why products that affect the environment should be allowed into Honduras. I will contact the National Environmental Commission and order them to take action if the report you mentioned is confirmed. As a nation, we are convinced that things like that should not happen.

There is some debate on whether industries that operate high- temperature furnaces can use those sort of products, but until the issue is properly regulated by organizations such as the Environmental Protection Agency, it would be illogical for the country to accept products that will contaminate our environment. We will enforce agreements that contain administrative policies issued by the executive branch that have been in effect for a long time.

[Reporter] Mr. President, can you guarantee that the products will be rejected given in light of the agreement signed by the Central American presidents at the Panama summit in December?

[Callejas] Of course, the government's environmental policy is not to allow toxic products into the country. Thus we should expect nothing other than compliance with that policy.

[Reporter] The Nicaraguan Government protested vigorously against your meeting with Cesar Gaviria in San Andres Island. Nicaragua claimed the meeting violated regional agreements as well as agreements between Honduras and Nicaragua. Nicaragua has laid claim to San Andres Island.

[Callejas] I am not aware of the Nicaraguan Government's protest. I will have to talk to the Foreign Ministry. Historically we have respected all international treaties. This was the second time I visited San Andres as Central American [as heard] to meet with the Colombian president. You might recall the Central American presidents and a Nicaraguan representative met there to discuss bananas and coffee nearly two years ago.

[Reporter] Did you plan to take this trip with your party's candidate Osvaldo Ramos Soto, or did you travel together by chance two days ago?

[Callejas] Osvaldo Ramos Soto was going to Washington and New York, and I was going to Miami to meet my wife.

[Reporter] President, the problem is that Nicaragua demands...[pauses] has laid claim to San Andres. In fact, Commander Daniel Ortega said your presence in San Andres was absurd.

[Callejas] I will talk to the Foreign Ministry to issue an explanation on the matter if warranted.

[Reporter] President Callejas, the number of cholera cases has increased but has not yet reached epidemic proportions. Do you have any information on that? What immediate measures will be taken in addition to those adopted by the Public Health Ministry, which have apparently failed to achieve results?

[Callejas] Since the first unfortunate case was reported in Honduras, the death rate among cholera patients has increased with the largest number of cases occurring during the rainy season. I want to reassert the following: You fight cholera on an individual basis. You must wash your hands with soap and drink boiled water. There is no other way to do it. We will summon the commission in charge of the fight against cholera to resume its publicity campaign emphasizing the need for personal hygiene. Otherwise there will be more cholera cases in the country. Of course, the government has sponsored sanitation programs, latrine and sewer construction, and water treatment facility improvements, but the cholera issue is up to every one of us. Wash your hands with soap before each meal, boil your drinking water, and remember that cholera is transmitted through the mouth. You are the only one who can stop it.

[Reporter] Have you ruled out the possibility of declaring a state of emergency due to the number of people who have died in recent hours?

[Callejas] I understand the health minister recently spoke on the issue. I do not know if he has changed his opinion, but if he has not, I believe he has already been answered your question. He clearly said there would be no emergency because that would imply a curtailment of citizens' constitutional rights.

[Reporter] Mr. President, when will the people see the social compensation promised by your government?

[Callejas] We have talked about lowering bean prices. They will be lowered to 1.50 lempiras [L] next week.

[Reporter] President, the Tela Railroad Company has sent the first shipment of bananas to the EEC despite the restrictions. Do you have anything to say about that?

[Callejas] I think someone does not know what is what here. Look, the EEC postponed the implementation of its decision for three months to review the regulations for Latin American banana imports due to EEC agreements that restrictions will become effective later on as a result of the GATT. I have only been out of the country 24 hours yet I hear you asking me about a cholera emergency even though the health minister has already addressed the matter. You ask about the banana issue even though all the newspaper headlines 72 hours ago referred to the postponement of measures dealing with the banana shipments. You ask me if I will meet with Ramos Soto when barely 24 hours ago I told you it was a personal trip. In other words, the country cannot have changed so much in 24 hours without my learning about it.

[Reporter] In any case, the one who does not know what is what is Eduardo Aragon, vice president of the Tela Railroad Company. He reported on 23 June that the first shipment had been sent to Europe including...[pauses] within the framework of the measures that will become effective on 1 July; on 1 July, not in October. That is what Eduardo Aragon said.

[Callejas] The EEC's restrictions were originally scheduled to become effective on 1 July, but they were later postponed 90 days.

[Reporter] He said they would become effective on 1 July. He is vice president of the Tela Railroad Company. He said the first shipment had already been sent from Puerto Cortes under the EEC's new restrictive measures.

[Callejas] That would mean the EEC changed its position on a later date, because when I left two days ago the measures were supposed to become effective later on.

[Reporter] President, 13 persons were killed in an airplane accident on 19 June. Two small airplanes have crashed here at Toncontin International Airport within a month. What is the final word on the capital's airport?

[Callejas] We have information that the private sector is negotiating with a British firm on the issue, and I understand the talks are going well.

[Reporter] President, the economy minister reported on 23 June that an increase in the customs appraisal factor is now a fact. When you left you said you did not know if it would be increased or not, but it is now a fact. How will it affect our economy? Leading economists say it will increase inflation.

[Callejas] The Central Bank directorate board members were scheduled to meet on 24 June. I do not know if they made a decision on the customs appraisal factor or not,

so we must wait until I have reliable information. The customs appraisal factor is a fiscal rather than monetary issue. The exchange rate is currently L6.30 or L6.40 to the dollar, and that is what really affects import products. The last time I met with the media I asked that we specifically talk about two elements. The customs appraisal factor is for fiscal purposes, meaning if the exchange rate...[pauses] if the customs appraisal factor is established at L5.70 to the dollar and then goes up to L6.20 to the dollar, meaning it increases 50 centavos, a tax will be levied on the 50 centavos. It could be a 10 percent tax, meaning 5 centavos. In fiscal terms, this has an incidence of 1 percent. The problem is not in the fiscal but monetary aspect. The change in the foreign exchange rate from L5.70 to L6.20 obviously will result in a 10 percent increase in the cost of import products. We are talking about two different things. The customs appraisal factor is exclusively for fiscal purposes, and I think that eventually the Finance Ministry will be responsible for applying it to avoid confusion when the Central Bank makes decisions, as it could be viewed as a monetary factor. The main customs appraisal factor is fuel, which requires the largest amount of foreign exchange. However, the government has made it very clear that an increase in the customs appraisal factor will not cause fuel prices to go up, especially gasoline prices.

[Reporter] Are you seriously concerned about the lempira dropping against the dollar; it seems the lempira goes down every day?

[Callejas] To some extent the currency's behavior has an impact on some products; for example, fuel and medicines. That is why the government will have to take appropriate measures to prevent further pressure on the dollar. The Central Bank is obligated to restrict the liquidity of the lempira to keep from fueling inflation. Another key aspect is that the Finance and Public Credit Ministry must insist on eliminating the provisional customs permits except those the law allows for 30 days.

Those elements will entail greater restrictions on the bank's liquidity, and that eases the pressure on the dollar. I am concerned, of course, but the fundamental product, which is fuel, will not go up because of currency fluctuations. The government foresaw that problem.

[Reporter] The mass transit sector has said it will strike on 28 June if it is not paid its subsidy.

[Callejas] The sector is entitled to a subsidy. I would be surprised to learn that the Finance and Public Credit and the Communications and Public Work Ministries are not paying it. I will look into it because the sector is entitled to a subsidy.

[Reporter] They want an increase in the subsidy.

[Callejas] What you are saying is confusing. Let me see what I can learn. Are they asking for an increase? I am not aware that they are asking for an increase in fares.

[Reporter] Why did your wife not accompany you on the trip back?

[Callejas] She is in Miami.

[Reporter] Is she going to stay there?

[Callejas] Yes, until early July.

Nicaragua

Special Disarmament Brigade, Recompas Sign Agreement

PA2606020793 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1030 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Report by Alberto Rivera Monzon]

[Text] Recompas belonging to the so-called Captain Luis Mesa Northern Front agreed to enter the security areas. They signed an agreement with the Special Disarmament Brigade [BED]. In San Rafael del Norte on 24 June—following a heated meeting at the police station among representatives of the Special Disarmament Brigade, Army, governor's office, mayor's office, judges from La Concordia and San Rafael, and farmers—the officers of the Major Modesto Rodriguez Brigade and Captain German Zeledon Brigade traveled to (Las Chichiguas) Cooperative to hold talks with the recompas, led by former Capt. Rodolfo Fonseca, alias El Callado.

This reporter accompanied the BED members. The meeting with staff members of the self-styled Capt. Luis Mesa Northern Front recompa group was held at the site where these former Army officers are stationed. The recompas demanded compliance with 1990 agreements, including the assignment of their respective plots and assistance to build their homes.

For the sake of calm and to prevent clashes with the Army, the BED and the former officers agreed to the following:

1. To gather the Luis Mesa Northern Front troops in (Las Chichiguas) on 25, 26, and 27 June for their subsequent transfer on 28 June to a security point known as El Dorado. This is because part of their forces, which according to them total about 120 men, are scattered throughout the Municipalities of Yali, La Concordia, and San Rafael del Norte.

2. The established [constituidas] forces, Sandinist People's Army, and National Police must respect the time period agreed on with the armed recompas for their transfer to the established perimeter.

3. Talks with the BED will continue once they are inside El Dorado security area. The results must be reported to the government. Disarmament will follow the reaching of an agreement.

The agreement was signed for the recompas by Rodolfo Fonseca, alias El Callado, and Ernesto Canales, alias Jackson.

For the BED, Maj. Modesto Rodriguez and Capt. German Zeledon signed the agreement.

On returning to San Rafael, Army Chief Capt. Francisco Lara and Police Chief Lieutenant Fabio Mendoza signed an agreement not to deploy troops on the mobilization days that were agreed on. There may be clashes, however, if the recompas pass near Army posts, Capt. Francisco Lara warned.

Minister Mendieta on Security Forces Debate

PA2606014393 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] We are satisfied because the Army and the National Police have joined the country's democratization process, Government Minister Alfredo Mendieta stated on 24 June in a report on the outcome of the debates at the multisectoral table of the national dialogue on the security forces' modernization.

[Begin Mendieta recording] We are very satisfied with the 24 June meeting because all the sectors at the multisectoral table acknowledged that the National Police and the Army have been joining the country's democratization process. The sectors also acknowledged that despite budget and other limitations, the government's Armed Forces have assisted greatly in the state's democratization and modernization process.

During the meeting, we also discussed the ethical and moral standards that should be upheld by National Police and Army personnel. As government, we consider that efforts by security forces to further the institutional process and to defend our democratic values are evidence that they have the required ethical and moral values and can continue to be part of the processes under way to strengthen and professionalize our institutions.

The multisectoral table also discussed the Army's role in the new society being built in our country. We see them entering fields that traditionally have not been handled by the Armed Forces in Latin America or elsewhere. We, however, have already started to discuss some areas in which the Armed Forces, the Army and police, could participate. We talked about their working in activities related to ecology, agrarian reform, and others. This shows how much the Armed Forces have advanced since President Chamorro took office. [end recording]

Bluefields Official Says Drug Trafficking 'Out of Control'

PA2506163093 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 24 Jun 93 pp 1, 2

[Report by Luis Valverde]

[Text] Bluefields, South Atlantic Region—Believe it or not, there are approximately 51 drug and psychotropic substance outlets in Bluefields that are selling merchandise like hotcakes, their most popular items being cocaine and crack. The police force has asserted that drug trafficking in the area is totally out of their control.

"Yes, it has gotten out of control," admitted Lieutenant Jose Tenorio, chief of the drug team that works in the vast Atlantic coast. He added that the Drug Commission does not work and that the police force is bogged down by a lack of resources and budget cuts.

As of 31 May the Bluefields Drug Department had seized 11 kg of cocaine and 48 crack stones and had arrested 53 people, many of them habitual criminals, the lieutenant said.

Tenorio added that the increase in drug trafficking is taking a heavy social toll on the coastal population, especially on young people between 18 and 30 years old among whom there is a high degree of cocaine and crack addiction.

The police officer estimated that international drug traffickers have moved more than 1,000 kg of cocaine through the zone, 300 kg of which was recovered by residents of the Indian communities of Tasba Pouni, Corn Island, Hallover, and Laguna de Perlas.

"Drug trafficking and consumption shot up after the so-called storm of the century, which took drug traffickers by surprise near San Andres island in December 1992.

According to the drug chief, the drug is used in the area itself and is also taken to the countryside by merchants, truck drivers, and insurance salesmen who use their professions as a cover for their criminal activities.

"Merchants from the Pacific area come here and go all the way to Hallover community, allegedly looking for shark fins, but what they really want is cocaine," Tenorio reported.

The police officer, however, said he did not have the resources to fight the drug traffickers. He said the Bluefields Police force is at a disadvantage against the cocaine traffickers have polished their operations.

He said that many Costa Ricans go to the Indian communities to buy drugs. The Costa Ricans take electrical appliances—television sets, video recorders, tape recorders, and other equipment—to exchange for cocaine.

Tenorio asserted that the drug kingpins have invested large sums of money in drug trafficking to be able to consolidate the coveted San Andres-Bluefields-Corn Island-United States drug route.

He added that the Bluefields Police force has two 50 horsepower speedboats while the drug traffickers have much better speedboats with 250 horsepower outboard motors.

"Drug trafficking must be fought on the open seas," Tenorio stated. He added that the police force requires a bigger budget to buy fuel and some 175 horsepower outboard motors at minimum, and, if possible, to have a helicopter permanently assigned to the area to pursue drug traffickers.

He asserted that "several people on Corn Island and Laguna de Perlas are building their fortunes on cocaine. Brand-new stores are cropping up in Bluefields and Puerto Cabezas to launder money."

First Lt. Daniel Vargas, Bluefields police chief, observed that they will remain powerless to control drug trafficking and consumption until the government allocates the necessary resources to fight the scourge of the Atlantic coast.

Panama

Court Upholds Ruling in Case of Murdered U.S. Soldier

PA2706190393 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 27 Jun 93 p 8d

[Article by Juan Pritsiolas]

[Text] The Supreme Court of Justice has rejected a power of attorney granted to lawyer Carlos Carrillo by Democratic Revolutionary Party President Gerardo Gonzalez to assume the defense of his son, Pedro Miguel Gonzalez, who is being investigated on charges that he was one of authors of the murder of a U.S. soldier.

The top judicial body thus upheld a similar ruling made last year by the Second Superior Court as part of the trial of Gonzalez and others indicted in the murder of Zak Hernandez.

Pedro Miguel Gonzalez was identified as one of the individuals who attacked a Southern Command military vehicle in June 1992 near Chilibre and thus caused the U.S. soldier's death.

Gonzalez has been at large since then. Gerardo Gonzalez's intention was to grant lawyer Carlos Carrillo power of attorney to assume his son's defense.

In view of the Supreme Court's ruling, Gonzalez' file was returned to the Fourth District Attorney's Office for further investigation. The Public Prosecutor's Office is awaiting a report on an autopsy conducted on Zak Hernandez by U.S. authorities.

The soldier was killed on the eve of a visit by former U.S. President George Bush. The U.S. Embassy offered thousands of dollars in reward for information on Pedro Miguel Gonzalez' whereabouts.

Government Rejects Guatemala's Request for Serrano's Arrest

PA2506181193 Panama City Telemetro Television Network in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] The Panamanian Government rejected the Guatemalan authorities' request for the detention of former President Jorge Serrano Elias, who has taken asylum in Panama. According to the Panamanian Foreign Ministry, the Guatemalan request does not meet the requirements established in the 1933 Extradition Agreement that is binding in the two countries. The Guatemalan attorney general has confirmed that Serrano has pending charges in Guatemala.

It must be stressed that a similar situation occurred when the Panamanian Government requested the extradition of former Captain Jorge Eliecer Bernal, commander of the disbanded Defense Forces' riot unit known as Dobermans, because of his involvement in the deaths of Manuel Vasquez and worker Yito Barrantes. On that occasion, the Guatemalan Government ruled that Bernal was being politically persecuted. He subsequently escaped to Costa Rica.

Daily Publishes Foreign Ministry Note on Serrano

PA2606151393 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 26 Jun 93 p 2

[Verbal note D.M.503 issued by the Panamanian Government to the Guatemalan Embassy on 25 June 1993]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry greets the honorable Guatemalan Embassy and acknowledges receipt of note N.V. 506-02-93-C51 dated 18 June 1993 requesting the provisional arrest of Guatemalan citizen Jorge Serrano Elias who, according to the aforementioned note, is accused of "violating the Guatemalan Constitution, disobeying the presidents of state bodies, abusing authority, and usurping functions, all of which are crimes according to the Guatemalan code."

Article 10 of the 1993 Extradition Convention, which is invoked in the note, stipulates that for the a government to consider a request to place an individual under provisional arrest, it is an essential requirement "to have at least an arrest warrant issued against that individual followed by a suggestion to request the extradition of the person later." None of those requirements have been fulfilled in the verbal note. The fails not only to request Guatemalan citizen Serrano's extradition in due time—the exclusive and ultimate purpose of the requested provisional arrest—but also to mention the existence of a arrest warrant issued by a competent authority. The only document that accompanies the aforementioned verbal note is a simple copy of a note dated 8 June 1993 that Miguel Angel Solorzano Monzon, fourth judge of the Preliminary Criminal Court, addressed to the Guatemalan foreign minister asking him to request from the Panamanian Foreign Ministry the "immediate arrest of

former Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano." That document also fails to mention the existence of an arrest warrant.

In consideration of the above, the Foreign Ministry thinks the aforementioned verbal note presented by the Guatemalan Embassy fails to meet the requirements outlined in Article 10 of the 1993 Extradition Convention binding the two countries. Consequently, the Foreign Ministry cannot honor the request to place Guatemalan citizen Jorge Serrano under provisional arrest.

We take this opportunity to reiterate to the Guatemalan Embassy that, through Decree 122-A of 7 June 1993, the executive granted territorial asylum to former Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano. [Signed] Julio Linares, foreign minister of Panama.

Endara Comments on Current Economic Situation

PA2606041993 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Jun 93

["Message to the nation" by President Guillermo Endara Galimany from his office in Panama City on 25 June—recorded]

[Text] As president of the Republic, allow me to share with you a brief analysis, something I would like to do periodically. You will recall that my administration's first priority was to put our country's financial situation in order. Among other things, we had to clean up government finances; to establish norms for the administration of the money, which belongs to all of you, and to recover credibility in the banking center.

As you know, banking activities are vital for the economic development of any country. For Panama they are even more important, as it is a financial center. That center brings great benefit to us all, rich or poor. Recall when banks closed in 1988 and later when bank deposits were frozen. The banking center was left in critical condition and that forced my government to take responsible actions so that normal bank operations could resume.

Just a few months after I took over, bank funds were released and operations resumed. This dashed the gloomy predictions of those who forecast that recovery was impossible. The truth is that during my administration the banking center has recovered and has expanded its services. That is the true meaning of the fact that both deposits and loans have increased. Panamanians and foreigners again began to have confidence in the banks. The banks, in turn, again had confidence in the working capacity and opportunities of all those who strive hard. That is the meaning of more deposits and more loans.

As an immediate strategy for reactivating the economy, my government made available to private banks over 100 million balboas, which were used to make over 2,400 loans to merchants and to small, medium, and large industrialists. Many Panamanians rebuilt their shops or opened new ones.

The reconstruction of the banking center in just three years has represented more sources of employment. I am referring to both those Panamanians who work in the banking center, which recovered, and to the thousands of jobs that resulted from the loans for rebuilding stores or opening new ones.

To conclude, as we continue along this path of developing the banking center, this entails more hopes for the country and—above all—for those who have not yet been able to join the work force. Thank you very much.

Argentina

Menem To Meet With Clinton 'Despite' Attack on Iraq

PY2706024693 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0145 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Jun (NA)—The Argentine Foreign Ministry officially reported today that President Carlos Menem will meet his U.S. counterpart, Bill Clinton, on 29 June as scheduled despite the U.S. attack on Iraqi bases.

Deputy Foreign Minister Fernando Petrella released this information and confirmed the Argentine president's trip to the United States, his first since the Clinton administration took over.

Petrella also justified the U.S. attack with medium-range missiles against Iraqi bases by saying that Saddam Husayn's regime "is breaking international laws all the time."

Although the deputy foreign minister did not say so, Menem will probably add this development to the agenda of the 29 June meeting. The agenda already includes the dismantled Condor-2 project, the law on patents, and agricultural subsidies.

"There are many things in common with the U.S. Government and this is a good opportunity to confirm them. Menem's U.S. tour will not be suspended because of this new attack because Iraq cannot operate outside international law," Petrella told journalists.

U.S. Verification of Condor Deactivation Confirmed

PY2606213393 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1644 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Jun (TELAM)—Defense Minister Oscar Camilion confirmed today that yesterday "there was an inspection" of parts of the deactivated missile project "Condor-2," and the U.S. Embassy science attache participated. Camilion said the decision to permit such a verification was a "political" decision.

The minister said: "Yesterday we had an inspection of some materials found in the past few weeks, and the U.S. Embassy science attache participated."

Camilion denied that the "U.S. Embassy had presented a formal document replacing the 'non paper' [preceding two words in English] (unofficial paper) that the media reproduced recently" to request such an inspection.

The defense minister also denied that the Air Force decided only now to show the materials it was guarding to diplomats. "Any decision of this nature is made by the political power, not by the Air Force," Camilion said.

Official Warns of 'Free Samples' of Heroin Entering Nation

PY2506235793 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1240 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 June (NA)—Alberto Lestelle, programming and coordination secretary for the prevention of drug abuse and for the antinarcotics struggle, has sounded a note of warning to the effect that "the first free samples of heroin" are arriving in Argentina to "discover the lay of the land" before attempting to turn the national territory into a country "for both transit and consumption."

Lestelle further stated that "the scourge of drug trafficking has virtually unleashed the third world war," which he labelled "much more evil and which has claimed much more lives than the two previous ones."

During a brief talk delivered during a ceremony in which the U.S. Government donated vehicles and equipment for drug enforcement, Lestelle stated: "If we added up the number of victims throughout the whole history of mankind, the figure we would come up with would fall short of the number of victims claimed by drug trafficking."

Lestelle underscored the work done by security forces and asserted that "insufficient means notwithstanding, we are coming up against this perverse business that has an annual turnover of $600 billion worldwide."

Lestelle added: "Moreover, there are some $300 billion or $400 billion from drug trafficking being laundered annually throughout the world. All of us together must combat this filth by people becoming aware of it and by means of security and police forces."

Having urged "all sectors of society to become aware," Lestelle warned that "cocaine production has increased throughout the world, and in our hemisphere as well."

To conclude, Lestelle said: "This is a complex issue. Governments must respond to this grave problem confronting us. People must become aware of all this and support us in taking preventive measures. Otherwise, this struggle will end in failure."

Bolivia

MacLean Refutes Navy Leader's Statement on Foreign Policy

PY2606134693 Cochabamba LOS TIEMPOS in Spanish 15 Jun 93 p B3

[Text] La Paz, 15 Jun (ANF)—Foreign Minister Ronald MacLean has refuted comments by Bolivian Navy Commander Admiral Miguel Alvarez Delgado regarding the current government's foreign policy. MacLean said: "The Navy commander's comments not only do not reflect the truth but they also lack historic accuracy.

They by no means reflect Bolivian foreign policy regarding the fulfillment and respect for international treaties and world order."

Adm. Alvarez recently said Bolivia should inform the UN international courts that Chile has failed to fulfill the 1904 Treaty and that it refuses to acknowledge Bolivia's right to an outlet to the Pacific Ocean. He asserted that throughout the years Chile's foreign policy has become a state policy that was handed down from government to government.

In Adm. Alvarez' opinion, Bolivia must seek new formulas for its international policy and raise the 1904 Treaty issue before the United Nations. He said the OAS should also intervene to find solutions within the framework of friendship, cooperation, and integration that Bolivia has always upheld.

President-Elect Favors Legalization of Drugs

PY2606213093 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 21 Jun 93 p 7

["Excerpts" of interview with Bolivian President-elect Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada by Spanish TIEMPO magazine correspondent Amalia Barron—place and date not given]

[Text] [Barron] One of the major problems you will have as the new president of Bolivia is drug trafficking.

[Sanchez de Lozada] We must find a solution. Do you know that the antidrug fight is the politicians' tomb? And do you believe that one of the great illusions is banning the use of drugs? One must be a Protestant to believe in it. To defeat vices by imposing laws and punishments? I am afraid it will be achieved only through education. But we are at the developed world's mercy. What is the use of proposing legalization of coca if the United States and Europe do not agree with the idea?

[Barron] Would you agree with the drug's legalization?

[Sanchez de Lozada] Of course. Alcohol is terrible and cigarettes are even worse, but I have seen in mankind's history that prohibition has achieved nothing but making vices extremely profitable for traffickers. It is terrible to say it, but some tax on drugs should be created.

[Barron] What is your plan to fight drug trafficking?

[Sanchez de Lozada] The Plan of All is to increase the investments in rural areas six times, and this is related to drug trafficking. Coca producers must be taken out of their production areas and transferred to other activities, to reabsorb them within the rural and urban economy through consensus and eradication mechanisms. It is not easy, but we believe that instead of reacting to pressures, demands, and even foreign intervention, we should create a policy. My party has begun a policy of voluntary eradication, replacing and repressing the activity so as to keep prices at a low level. But the current government has done nothing and has not progressed.

Throughout the years we have realized that if we do not have an expanding economy it is very difficult to offer alternatives to the producer. On this matter there is much interference by Europe and the United States and very little incentive to contribute effectively. When we began this policy, which is currently entering the final stage, as minister of state I went to the United States to seek the $500 million necessary to invest over five years. We decided to sell gold from the Central Bank to contribute $100 million, which was very significant for a country as poor as Bolivia. We asked for the remaining $400 million and the answer was that there was no money. However, they did have the money to send soldiers and cause problems. When you go to Spain they tell you the same. The same thing happens in other countries. At most, they send you radio equipment or a helicopter. Obviously there must be a desire in Bolivia to solve the problem. We cannot react to foreign pressures. We have to take our proposal, sell it, and obtain support from the media because this is a cancer.

[Barron] The drug has entered our homes now.

[Sanchez de Lozada] Yes. It is hurting our society badly because Bolivian youngsters have started consuming drugs. It is already invading the poorest sectors. A decade ago we used to say if the Americans wanted to buy drugs, we would sell it to them. But now we are feeling the consequences. It is a terrible problem. It is very dangerous and harmful to society. There is a national consensus on drug trafficking. A decade ago a hectare of coca plantation yielded $25,000 to the peasant. It now yields only $2,500, which is what it costs to keep the plantation operating. This means that besides being immoral or illegal it is uneconomical. It is the result of excessive cultivation. The harsher the repression the smaller the amount of money that goes to the producer and the larger the percentage for the middlemen.

[Barron] What is the Plan for All were successful?

[Sanchez de Lozada] If the Plan for All were successful, the worst thing that would happen is that drug traffickers would realize it is good business to invest in Bolivia. Right now, Bolivia is not an attractive place for investments, and their money is invested elsewhere.

[Barron] Your sense of humor and use of sarcasm against political rivals is famous. In this campaign, however, you used really smooth language.

[Sanchez de Lozada] I was always ahead in this election. Whoever is ahead behaves differently from those who are behind and want to win the election. The past campaign I started from scratch.

[Barron] Just as you did with your fortune.

[Sanchez de Lozada] I built up my own company, even though many people believe I inherited it. I was never a rich man. I come from a family of large landowners, but we did not have great wealth and we lost the little we had in the Agrarian Reform. I built up my company from scratch. I did it by absorbing bankrupt companies. I do

not want to say, as Max Fernandez did, that administering Bolivia is like administering a beer company, but the experience obviously helps. It is my experience that taking what other people think cannot be saved, that does not have a future, can be transformed into something successful if you give it a new dimension.

[Barron] Do you feel better as a bohemian [bohemio], a poet, a movie maker, a philosopher, a businessman, or a politician?

[Sanchez de Lozada] I obviously feel better as a politician. Otherwise, we would not have won the election under such adverse conditions. My knowledge of philosophy, my business experience, and my bohemian character contributed and helped me maintain a great human touch with the people. Everybody calls me Goni, and it will continue to be so. I do not think anyone will call me "Mr. President." I started as a poet, then I spent time making movie documentaries. I had an oil services company, then a mining company, and now I am a politician. I suppose my next career will be to join a monastery and dedicate myself to meditation. In this period of my life what I do is try to use my experience to fulfill my state function.

ADN, PDC, MIR Seek Long-Term Political Coalition

PY2606170993 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 18 Jun 93 p 5

[Text] Without the presence of the FRI [Revolutionary Front of the Left], the boards of ADN [Nationalist Democratic Action], the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left], and the PDC [Christian Democratic Party] yesterday reaffirmed the decision to maintain the Patriotic Accord until 6 August, and later to make up a coalition opposed to the MNR [Nationalist Revolutionary Movement] government.

Upon holding a previous and "explanatory" meeting with Hugo Banzer, chairman of the Patriotic Agreement Political Council (Copap), concerning his statement predicting the end of the "accord because it no longer has any reason to exist," current MIR chief Oscar Eid Franco reported that those parties "unanimously" decided to create an opposition bloc after 6 August.

"The AP [Patriotic Accord] remains one of the most creative and fruitful alternatives of the national life. For four years we have been the pillar of the Paz Zamora government, and after 6 August in Congress, we will assume an opposition role that will be beneficial for the country and which will comply with democratic requirements," he said.

He ruled out the trends detected namely within ADN to end the coalition, stating that currently the AP is "united" and seeks to work in unity for the development of new political possibilities.

Eid Franco and ADN Deputy Chief Jorge Landivar have agreed in stating that the press "distorted" Banzer's remarks concerning the scope of the AP.

"What General Banzer said and what is published between quotation marks, is different from the perception of the reporter who prepared the report, although what is most interesting is that the great decision is to remain united to work from the opposition," Landivar said.

Concerning the absence of FRI representatives, who last Wednesday expressed their agreement with the "elimination" of AP as a political instrument, Landivar and Fernando Kieffer (ADN) stated that it was not intentional and that it was justified by Oscar Zamora's trip to Tarija.

"When we talked about this matter, 'Motete' [Oscar Zamora] agreed on everything, and I dare say that he will agree with all decisions made," Landivar said.

Antidrug Chief Denies Cooperating With Traffickers

PY2606151893 La Paz LA RAZON in Spanish 15 Jun 93 p A16

[Excerpt] Santa Cruz, 14 Jun (LA RAZON)—Lieutenant Colonel Jairo Zanabria, commander of the Santa Cruz Special Antinarcotics Force (FELCN), has described as "blackmail and slanderous" the accusations made against him by Anahi Cassis. These accusations are included in a document issued by the antidrug police and published by LA RAZON.

According to a report prepared by Lieutenant Fernando Perez Aramayo and Sub-Lieutenant Juan Carlos Espinoza, members of the anti-drug police, Jairo Zanabria and two other FELCN members, Captain Eloy Jarandilla and Captain Favio Rios, were accused of covering up the actions of an international Colombian and Bolivian drug trafficking ring arrested in late April and early May during Operation "Christian."

In the judicial police proceedings, Anahi Cassis Candia, who is accused of cooperating with the "drug-trafficking" ring linked to the Cali cartel, accused Zanabria of having asked her to use her name for the purchase of a small plane and providing protection to the traffickers' operations.

These new accusations against Col. Zanabria and other FELCN officials from Santa Cruz have irritated Zanabria, who decided to avoid speaking to reporters. [passage omitted]

FELCN Investigating Charges

PY2606160293 La Paz LA RAZON in Spanish 19 Jun 93 p A2

[Text] Trinidad, 18 Jun (LA RAZON)—Colonel Rogelio Vargas, deputy commander of the Special Antinarcotics

Force (FELCN), reported today (yesterday) in this town that former Santa Cruz FELCN chief, Lieutenant Colonel Jairo Zanabria, has been transferred to La Paz to face investigations concerning accusations made against him of covering up drug operations.

Vargas told LA RAZON: "Lt. Col. Zanabria has been transferred to La Paz so that the necessary measures may be taken at Government House, because we think that the law must prevail if he is involved in this case."

Based on FELCN documents, this newspaper last Monday [14 June] reported that Zanabria was accused of covering up and protecting a Colombian and Bolivian drug trafficking ring in Santa Cruz.

The accusations were made by a woman, Anahi Cassis, a member of a traffickers' ring dismantled in early May. According to Anahi Cassis, the former Santa Cruz FELCN chief reportedly used her to purchase a small airplane to carry drugs to Colombia.

A day after the accusations, Lt. Col. Zanabria said those charges represent "accusations and blackmail by a drug trafficker," and that the FELCN command should make a decision on the case. In view of the woman's denunciation, the FELCN command decided to take the necessary actions to either rule out or ratify the case. "We are not doing anything else but complying with the laws. Lt. Col. Zanabria is being investigated internally," the FELCN commander said, referring to the work of FELCN intelligence organizations.

The deputy commander warned that the Prosecutor's Office must continue with the investigations of the case. During the investigations of Operation "Christian," Zanabria was asked to testify on his participation in the confiscation of the airplane purchased by Anahi Cassis. "The Prosecutor's Office prevails in this case. Lt. Col. Zanabria will have to come to the prosecutor's office when asked to do so," the anti-drug chief said.

Brazil

Army Minister Says 'No Possibilities' of Coup

PY2706025993 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 26 Jun 93 p 8

[Text] Brasilia—The first Armed Forces' reaction to statements made by Deputy and Reserve Captain Jair Bolsonaro (PPR-RJ) [Progressive Renewal Party-Rio de Janeiro], who proposed closing Congress and the establishment of a state of exception, came from Army Minister General Zenildo Lucena. The general yesterday said there are no possibilities whatsoever of a coup d'etat, emphasizing that the deputy's remarks will not have any influence in the barracks. The minister used a short sentence to answer Bolsonaro's remarks: "A coup, no way, under no circumstances."

The minister gave assurances that active-duty soldiers will not get involved or be encouraged by Bolsonaro's remarks, but admitted that the declaration might have some influence with reserve officers. Lucena considered the remarks an isolated incident that must be analyzed and judged by Congress.

"I do not believe he is preaching what he said. It is an isolated opinion and no cause for concern. Let us leave it to Congress to decide. It is of concern only for the way he said it. It is natural that it might catch the attention of some reserve officers. There is freedom of expression in the country. But he will not entice any active-duty officer. They will not be involved or encouraged by these remarks," Lucena said.

Justice Minister Mauricio Correa said Bolsonaro violated the Constitution when he called for closing Congress and the establishment of a dictatorial regime. In Correa's opinion, the deputy's remarks were irresponsible.

"Whoever advocates a dictatorship is violently defiling the Constitution. It is something for the Chamber of Deputies to resolve," Correa said, adding that President Itamar Franco and the military ministers are not concerned about Bolsonaro's remarks.

Correa said Franco is the commander of public order, the country is in absolute political calm, and all economic problems are being administered with prudence by the president.

"The deputy's statements are altogether absurd. The military stands firm to defend the Constitution," the minister said.

Cardoso Urges Businessmen To Support Government

PY2506162993 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Finance Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso addressed the top Brazilian entrepreneurs who yesterday went to Planalto Palace as members of the "Take Off Brazil" movement that supports the government. The finance minister urged them to pay their taxes and to withdraw from the courts lawsuits filed against the government.

Finance Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso yesterday addressed the top Brazilian entrepreneurs who went with intellectuals and artists to Planalto Palace as members of the "Take Off Brazil" movement which supports the government. He said: Pay your taxes and withdraw the lawsuits currently in the courts because the government urgently needs to collect what it is entitled to or it will be unable to pay hospitals and retired people pensions.

Minister Cardoso asserted that he will not modify the course of his economic plan and that he will make exceptions for no one:

[Begin Cardoso recording, in progress] ... in an entirely clear manner. We must also be very clear that some of you here pay a lot in taxes, but others pay nothing. As a

result, the government collects very little and the people receive much less assistance than they should. [end recording]

Minister Cardoso ended by saying that he hopes 1993 is the important year in which Brazilians meet the country's need.

Lower House Starts Actions To Punish PPR Deputy Bolsonaro

PY2606135493 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 25 Jun 93 p 5

[Text] Brasilia—Deputy Jair Bolsonaro (PPR-RJ) [Progressive Renewal Party-Rio de Janeiro] may have to pay a high price for having upheld the implementation of a state of exemption and the dissolution of Congress. Inocencio de Oliveira (PFL-PE) [Liberal Front Party-Pernambuco], president of the Chamber of Deputies, has activated the Chamber of Deputies Legal Department [Procuradoria Parlamentar da Casa] and the office of the Magistrate General [Corregedoria Geral]. Deputy Vital do Rego (PDT-PB) [Democratic Labor Party-Paraiba], Legal Department coordinator, yesterday submitted to the Justice Commission a request that Bolsonaro have his legislative immunity suspended and that he be tried for lack of decorum within Congress and for having violated the National Security Law. In Vital's opinion, Bolsonaro could lose his mandate and even be sentenced to six years in prison.

The case will also be handled by the PPR Discipline Commission. One sector of the party demands Bolsonaro's expulsion. Bolsonaro appeared at the Chamber of Deputies yesterday but did not seem sorry for what he said: "I am a country bumpkin who came from the interior of Sao Paulo with no belongings. I have no problem with returning from where I came from. At least I was honest."

Finance Minister Criticizes Government's Lower House Leader

PY2706021393 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 26 Jun 93 p 3

[Article by Cassia Maria]

[Text] Vitoria—Finance Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso has criticized the government leader in the Chamber of Deputies, Roberto Freire (PPS-PE) [People's Socialist Party-Pernambuco], for negotiating an alternative to the salary policy approved by the Chamber of Deputies on 24 June providing for monthly salary adjustments. The minister yesterday practically ruled out any changes in current salary policies, which is contrary to Freire's expectations. Minister Cardoso made clear that the government leader is not representing his views on the issue of salary policies. Freire had been lobbying for bimonthly salary adjustments. Cardoso not only ruled out that alternative but insisted on maintaining present salary policies.

Freire also spoke about a 100 percent increase in the percentage of possible salary increases. Minister Cardoso reacted, laughing: "He cannot have a personal position. He must speak on the government's behalf. He can express his personal opinion in panel discussions."

Minister Cardoso told the president of Espirito Santo Industries Federation that the government is in no condition to grant even a bimonthly adjustment, reinforcing the belief that President Itamar Franco will veto the bill approved by the Chamber of Deputies during the week. Asked if salary policies in effect can be maintained under the present conditions, Minister Cardoso said: "People create the conditions."

Fernando Henrique Cardoso talked about the economic program drafted by the PSDB [Brazilian Social Democracy Party] during a seminar with entrepreneurs and politicians. The minister criticized Congress for giving in to "electoral interests" and mentioned Deputy Delfim Netto, who, according to the minister, used to defend the idea of keeping salaries down but today talks about monthly adjustments.

Army 'Indirectly' Cooperating Against Drug Trafficking

PY2606012493 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] The Army is going to help struggle against drug rings that operate in Rio de Janeiro's shantytowns. Minister Zenildo Zoroastro de Lucena stated that the Army already is helping with weapons and training courses:

[Begin recording] We are helping with weapons and, whenever possible, training the police in charge of carrying out these operations to use these weapons. [end recording]

Minister Lucena explained that the Army is granting indirect aid, always abiding by the Constitution.

Federal Police Join Drug War in Rio de Janeiro

PY2706033093 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Federal Police have joined the war against Red Command drug traffickers in Rio de Janeiro and discovered the criminal organization's new strategy to control drug trafficking throughout Rio de Janeiro State.

Federal Police today joined the drug war and the result was that eight drug traffickers were arrested, one died, and agents seized three shotguns, cocaine, and a garrote to strangle the Red Command's enemies.

Until recently, Boa Vista hill in Niteroi was not an important drug trafficking location but in just six months the Red Command took over the shantytown, killed peddlers that tried to oppose it, and improved its arsenal to the point that it now has U.S. AR-15 rifles

used during the Gulf War. The fact that the traffickers had these smuggled weapons prompted Federal Police to join the cocaine war.

Federal Police discovered that the (Mutuapira) shantytown in Sao Gonzalo was the Red Command's next target. The order to take it over came from one of the cells at a Niteroi police station where drug trafficker Fidelzinho Fernandez is being held. He wrote a letter to the Boa Vista drug boss, Walter Azevedo Filho, aka Waldinho. In this letter signed with the initials CV, for Red Command, Fernandez asked for money and drugs to start operations in the (Mutuapira) shantytown.

Police feel that the Red Command is expanding its distribution network to small shantytowns. It was this new strategy aimed at taking control of drug trafficking in Rio de Janeiro that unleashed the cocaine war.

Arrest 20 Traffickers in Rio Shantytown

PY2506181793 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] A victory was obtained today against drug traffickers in Rio de Janeiro. Some 200 men of the Antinarcotics Division and of the Special Military Police Battalion today stormed a stronghold of the Red Command: the Borel shantytown, the most violent area of the city and the second largest drug distribution center.

The Borel shantytown, in the northern part of Rio de Janeiro, was surrounded by policemen this morning. It is an operations center of one of the most violent trafficking gangs in Rio de Janeiro: the Red Command, whose members killed two policemen in earlier operations.

This time the police were prepared for war. The 200 men, armed with rifles and machine guns, took over drug sale points and sealed off the shantytown. Following a three month investigation, the police concluded that the Borel drug gang had formed an extremely well-armed 250 man army. The police are now hunting for 80 of these men, against whom there is evidence of involvement in trafficking and against whom the courts have issued arrest warrants.

Wielding arrest warrants, the policemen entered the shacks and arrested about 20 wanted traffickers by noon. The police are still hunting for the gang leaders. One trafficker was killed at the start of the operation in a shootout with the police.

Germans Train Police on Antiterrorist Techniques

PY2606020393 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] The Federal Police are training some of its members to become experts in bombs and explosive devices to prevent terrorist attacks.

Twelve Federal Police crime experts are learning to deactivate sophisticated bombs, identify explosive devices, and detonate bombs for safety purposes without causing material damage or casualties.

The course is being held at the National Police Academy in Brasilia and is being given by two specialists of the BKA, the German Federal Police.

This is the second time German experts have come to train Brazilians.

According to Police Academy Director (Neghme Esmiranda), the course seeks to train Brazilian experts:

[Begin recording] After doing a basic course, our crime experts must specialize. Our academy, through contact with embassies, especially from the most advanced countries, promotes the acquisition of the technology those countries have developed in these areas. We now want our experts to learn the technology the Germans have developed to deactivate bombs. [end recording]

The course ends next week. Today the experts witnessed the explosion of a 3-kg plastic bomb to analyze its effects. The explosion took place on the Police Academy training field. According to the German experts, the explosion could down six Boeing aircraft.

Central Bank Reserves Used To Pay Expenses

PY2706032593 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 26 Jun 93 p 28

[Excerpt] The Central Bank does not have money to support eventual bank emergencies, the liquidation of financial institutions, or to cover a massive withdrawal from savings accounts, as ordered by the law. Central Bank President Paulo Cesar Ximenes said the resources from the monetary reserves derived from Taxes on Financial Operations (IOF) were transferred to the National Treasury to cover current expenses.

Ximenes emphasized, however, that for the time being there are no imminent risks that the Central Bank will go bankrupt. And even if it did, the government would pay for deposits by requesting a budget credit, Ximenes said.

"The law will be fulfilled," Ximenes stressed. The Central Bank president yesterday participated in a luncheon with bankers in Rio de Janeiro. The luncheon was organized by the National Association of Open Market Institutions (Andima) and the Rio de Janeiro State Banks Association (ABERJ).

Ximenes proposed the immediate creation of a fund or deposit insurance to solve the problem and grant more stability to the financial system by preventing bank emergencies in case of liquidations. The law establishes that the Central Bank must protect people's savings in these cases, and deposit insurance already has been created by Item VI, Article 192, of the Constitution, although it has never been implemented or regulated. Ximenes said the creation of this instrument has been

difficult because of the bad financial and capital situation of some official banks. [passage omitted]

Government To Halt Excessive Influx of Foreign Capital

PY2606025193 Sao Paulo VEJA in Portuguese 23 Jun 93 p 35

[From the "Radar" page by Ancelmo Gois]

[Text] Central Bank President Paulo Ximenes is about to have a nervous breakdown. His problem is the avalanche of foreign currency pouring into Brazil—it will amount to $6 billion this year. The government is going to try shutting the door to avoid a further increase in the inflation rate and because it fears these dollars might all leave the country at once, thus fully disrupting the country's economy.

Rodrigues Palma Elected Brazilian Labor Party President

PY2506163293 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 25 jun 93

[Text] Deputy Rodrigues Palma has been elected the new president of the Brazilian Labor Party. He replaces Paiva Muniz who died two weeks ago. He was elected by acclamation during the PTB executive board meeting at the Chamber of Deputies yesterday. Palma will be president until the next party convention, which will probably be held in March 1994.

Chile

Government Says Army Withholds Information on Missing

PY2606025793 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Minister Enrique Correa said the Army has not been willing to deliver information on the whereabouts of political prisoners who disappeared. Correa also said the government is not ready to sponsor a new amnesty law:

[Begin recording] Regrettably, Military Prosecutor Fernando Torres was not very clear during his declarations yesterday. General Torres handed the government a list of 230 cases. This list is far from being close to the list of some 1,000 cases that he mentioned yesterday. [end recording]

Minister Correa began a news conference with these remarks and then answered questions left pending during the week. Those questions referred to the government position regarding an Army that has shown signs of unrest as the result of trials involving military officers on charges of human rights violations. This unrest became evident with the unusual troop mobilizations on 28 May. In the past few days different groups, particularly relatives of victims of human rights violation, made public their concern about what is being intensely discussed between civilian and military authorities. Enrique Correa said today that President Patricio Aylwin is gathering reports and listening to the opinions of all involved parties, as well as the opinions of other institutions and political parties, before calmly deciding what to do next.

[Begin recording] [Correa] A solution cannot hurt people's sense of justice.

[Unidentified reporter] How much time will the government set...

[Correa, interrupting] We do not have a timeframe. We do not feel we are pushed by any emergency. I am authorized to say that we are ready to support new legislation to speed up those trials, but we are not ready to sponsor a new amnesty law. [end recording]

Correa also said the Army did not show a willingness to hand in information on the whereabouts of individuals who were arrested and then disappeared.

More on Government Plans About Trials on Missing Persons

PY2606163993 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Asked whether the Army has been willing to report on the whereabouts of the political prisoners who have disappeared, Minister Enrique Correa has answered that, so far, they have not.

Here is journalist Manuela Robles' report. Good morning.

[Begin recording] [Robles] Good morning. Asked about ways being sought by the government to speed up the trials on human rights violations perpetrated during the previous administration, Minister Correa said: The president will act calmly because we do not feel pressured by any urgency. He added that it is up to the judges to preside over these trials, although the government is not willing to leave any human rights trials pending for the new administration. He also said that the executive branch is not concerned about General Pinochet's dismissal as Army commander in chief. He insisted that the government is not ready to sponsor an amnesty law. Asked whether the Army has been willing to report on the whereabouts of the political prisoners who have disappeared, he answered:

[Correa] So far, they have not, but if they do they will contribute to the solution of several problems.

[Robles] Correa agreed that once the path to solve the 230 trials involving human rights violations is found, the results will be reported to the people. He insisted, however, that there is no deadline to do it, because there is no urgency. He added that this is not the only issue on the government's agenda and that it will not change any court decision on the amnesty law. Correa said this issue

is not new. Asked whether the governmental approach to the issue changed after 28 May, when the Army began to show signs of unrest, he answered:

[Correa] Well, we are currently debating the issue and gathering reports on it, in an attempt to find a good solution to the problem that meets the interests of everyone.

[Robles] He was also asked about how the government will comply with the Army's request that data on the trials not be reported, he answered:

[Correa] I would not like to discuss this issue. The president will comment on the issue at the appropriate time.

[Robles] Asked whether this decision would not violate the freedom of the press, he answered concisely: The freedom of press is a right ensured by the Constitution. Good day. [end recording]

General Pinochet Denies Any Plan To Visit Israel

PY2506212693 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1305 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Santiago de Chile, 25 June (EFE)—General Augusto Pinochet, former president and current Chilean Army commander in chief, today denied that he had the intention of visiting Israel, as has been asserted in the last few days by reports from political and diplomatic sources in Jerusalem.

Gen. Pinochet, 76, told "Megavision," a private television network, that he had not requested either documents or an invitation to travel to Israel, adding that he held the Israeli people and its authorities in the greatest respect.

Gen. Pinochet played down the importance of reports according to which his possible visit to Israel had sparked off much opposition in Israeli Government and political circles, stating that those are moves "stage-managed from Chile" by "very specific" groups, which he did not identify.

According to reports received from Jerusalem, Gen. Pinochet intended to travel to Israel in October to finalize a deal to purchase a considerable amount of weapons for the Chilean Army.

Presidential Candidate for Humanist-Green Party Registers

PY2606140793 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] The first candidate for the presidency of the Republic registered at the electoral service today. He is Cristian Reitze, presidential candidate for the Humanist-Green Alliance.

Cristian Reitze Campos is 43 years old. He studied commercial engineering and served as mayor of Nunoa for six months. He was also director of the Ministry Secretary General of Government's Administration and Finance Directorate.

Besides the Humanist-Green Alliance, his presidential bid is being supported by former members of the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left], the Communist Party, and the Christian Left. They have formed a new front called New Left Movement [Movimiento Nueva Izquierda], MNI.

Reitze said his presidential platform is based on the defense of the environment and the fight against political leaderships' corruption, capitalism, and the power of money.

Colombia

Gaviria Defends Military From Rights Violation Charges

PA2506221993 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Report by Marcela Duran]

[Text] President Cesar Gaviria rejected human rights violation charges against Colombia during a 25 June speech at the Cadet Military School. Gaviria defended the military forces from international organization accusations that they are the country's major human rights violators:

[Begin Gaviria recording] The government welcomes criticism from individuals in Colombia or abroad who have reported irregularities in this state. However, we will not hesitate to defend fully those who become victims of slanderous charges that seek only to stain the country's good name. [end recording]

The president, who spoke during the officers' promotion ceremony at the Jose Maria Cordoba School, said more than 1,600 guerrillas were captured in the past six months, thus demonstrating that the internal disturbance measures have yielded good results.

Presidential Candidates Cite Various Plans for Oil Revenues

PA2606142493 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] The Colombian Petroleum Enterprise [Ecopetrol] and two foreign companies will begin drilling in Cusiana on 29 June. Ecopetrol must invest $3 billion, but it will be able to export 1 million barrels per day, thus earning millions to transform the nation's economy. Javier Dario Restrepo has this report:

[Begin recording] [Restrepo] What should be done with the $13 billion that will come out of the Cusiania wells in the next 12 years? Presidential candidates propose pie in the sky schemes in answering that question. Rodrigo

Marin's proposals range from the creation of an investment fund in foreign currency to the establishment of a refinery abroad.

[Marin] We can use the money to prepay one-third of the foreign debt, that is, $4 billion, and complete the financing of the basic services infrastructure called for by the economic opening.

[Restrepo] Former Minister Juan Camilo Restrepo is proposing that the money be handled in a technical manner.

[Juan Camilo Restrepo] We must first try not to cash in on these resources so quickly so we can save money abroad as investments in the country's reserves. Then we must carefully draw up an investment plan.

[Restrepo] Liberal candidate Carlos Lemus added up the money for Arauca, one of the regions that stands to gain the most from oil royalties.

[Lemus] I would use the Cusiana resources to set up one big education fund to provide scholarships to students at all levels.

[Restrepo] In Medellin, Liberal candidate Humberto de la Calle had the following plan:

[De la Calle] I would create a stabilization fund abroad, take the Cusiana foreign exchange to prepay Colombia's foreign debt, and develop investment programs that begin with investments in people. [end recording]

Government Denies Cali Cartel Request for Special Treatment

PA2506213693 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Report by Raul Gutierrez]

[Text] The government, through the Attorney General and Prosecutor General, turned down the Cali Cartel's request for special treatment in exchange for a possible surrender.

[Begin Government Minister Fabio Villagas recording] It is a moral and legal impossibility. [end recording]

The Cali Cartel, through its lawyers, gave three reasons why it should receive preferential treatment:

1. Collaboration with authorities in the search for the Medellin Cartel.

2. Nonuse of terrorism.

3. Willingness to leave the business.

[Begin recording] [Gutierrez] Does the government make any distinction between the Cali and Medellin Cartels?

[Villegas] There is no difference. We are facing criminals who need to be brought to justice. The law must be applied equally. [end recording]

Nevertheless, the government may be willing to intervene in the surrender process through legal modifications provided a formal request is made by the prosecutor general.

[Begin recording] [Villegas] The government is willing to modify the law provided it is done for the sake of applying justice.

[Gutierrez] Based on the internal disturbance emergency decrees?

[Villegas] We would need to look at the ways; but the important thing is to punish the crimes. [end recording]

So far the government has remained a neutral observer of the contacts made between the Prosecutor's Office and the Attorney General's Office by cartel lawyers, but things could change within the strictly legal framework.

Army Commander Says Rebels Rearming

PA2506163893 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Jun 93

[Report by Marcela Duran]

[Text] A few minutes ago, Army Commander General Hernan Jose Guzman confirmed that intelligence reports indicate that Manuel Perez, leader of the Army of National Liberation, is rearming his organization to carry out a large-scale terrorist attack.

[Begin recording] [Guzman] It is possible that they have received some weapons because we have found many rifles, such as AR-15 and FAL rifles, in various clashes and operations, especially in the San Lucas ridge. This means these weapons have been obtained by the subversives.

[Unidentified reporter] Through what area are those weapons entering the country?

[Guzman] We are working on this because they could have entered through several areas. Our intelligence is working on this and we have some clues to help us. [end recording]

Due to the intensity of the operations against Manuel Perez, the 2d Mobile Brigade base in Ocana was moved to southern Bolivar Department in the last few hours.

Escobar Brother Gives Prosecutor General Pepes Names List

PA2706034393 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0130 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Report by Luz Dary Castano]

[Excerpts] Important events surrounding Pablo Escobar, his lieutenants at the Itagui Prison, and several of his relatives took place on 26 June.

Roberto Escobar, Pablo's brother, gave Prosecutor General Gustavo de Greiff a list of the names of alleged members of the so-called Persecuted by Pablo Escobar [Pepes].

Prosecutor General Gustavo de Greiff visited the maximum security prison at Itagui twice in less than 48 hours. According to him, it was to complete a series of meetings. [passage omitted]

De Greiff said he will suspend for several days his visit to Medellin because he plans to go on a short vacation.

The "TV Today Newscast" learned about the list of names of alleged members of Pepes that Roberto Escobar gave Prosecutor General Gustavo de Greiff at the Itagui Prison. We also have the names of the seven Escobar relatives who traveled from Medellin to Costa Rica.

The list given to De Greiff contains the names of 11 persons, whose names we are not going to mention so as not to obstruct the investigations by the Prosecutor General's Office and other institutions. The list includes persons linked to paramilitary groups, to the Cali and Medellin Cartels, and to state intelligence and security organizations.

Two of Pablo Escobar's siblings, a brother-in-law, and four nephews left Medellin on Copa Airlines flight 323 at 0740 on 26 June. They flew to San Jose, Costa Rica, with a stopover in Panama. The passengers are: Algemiro and Luz Marina Escobar Gaviria, who are Escobar's siblings; Francisco Leonardo Arteaga, Luz Marina's husband; and Pablo's nephews Pablo Andres Escobar, 12; Leonardo; Mariluz, and Nicolas. They all departed Medellin with their documents in order and were escorted by the Regional Prosecutor General's Office in Antioquia Department.

EPL Dissident Commander Killed in Clash With Army

PA2706195593 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1800 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] The man known as Comisario Jaramillo, commander of the dissident wing of the Popular Liberation Army [EPL] in Antioquia, was killed on 27 June when the Army foiled a rebel commander meeting that was to be held in the mountains of La Union Municipality in eastern Antioquia Department.

Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia rebels and the EPL dissident wing were traveling in two vehicles en route to a nearby school. The Army had been informed of the meeting and set up a road block. When the soldiers asked to search the vehicles, the rebels answered with machine-gun fire, killing one soldier and wounding another.

Several rebels were wounded during the shoot-out. One of them dropped dead a few meters from the scene and was later identified as the chief of the EPL dissidents in Antioquia Department.

Two counterguerrilla companies are pursuing the men who escaped into the mountains. The plan is to surround them and keep them from leaving the area.

Paraguay

Wasmosy, Riquelme Argue Over Selection of Advisers

PY2506175793 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 25 Jun 93 pp 10-11

[Text] President-elect Juan Carlos Wasmosy and ANR [National Republican Association—Colorado Party] Chairman Blas N. Riquelme yesterday night assumed conflicting positions again, reaffirming reports that they have disagreed since the presidential elections over the people who will form the team of direct advisers to the president of the Republic.

Wasmosy replied to Riquelme's criticisms ("it is inconceivable to consider having foreigners as part of the government") through the Communications Secretariat headed by future minister Eduardo Venialgo: He stated that contracting Chilean Hernan Bucchi as adviser does not discredit Paraguayan professionals. On the contrary, that it means collecting as much experience as possible to establish serious working guidelines for the country.

Venialgo, who was the spokesman of the president-elect's position on the matter, "explained" to Riquelme that both Bucchi and the group of foreign experts have a long record from which the next government can obtain knowledge which will serve the country's interests.

On 23 June, Riquelme harshly criticized the confirmation of [former Chilean President] Pinochet's former Economy Minister Hernan Bucchi as Wasmosy's direct adviser, saying he could not understand how foreigners could hold posts within the government, thus unleashing new disagreements within the ruling party.

Beside Bucchi, prominent figures close to Argentine Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo have practically been confirmed. This was personally confirmed by Wasmosy to reporters. He said that during his recent visit to Argentina, Menem offered him technical advice through Cavallo.

This discrepancy of ideas, again demonstrated by both the ANR chairman and the president-elect, confirms that the two Colorado party leaders are engaged in an old covert dispute.

Within this context, a few weeks ago Wasmosy already complained about the top Colorado Party executive

board. He accused the ruling party board of exaggerating in its requests for posts as spoils upon winning the 9 May elections.

Land Occupations Prevent Signing of Agreement With Germany

PY2506205893 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 24 Jun 93 p 19

[Excerpt] German Ambassador to Paraguay Heinz Schneppen has deplored the fact that the resurgence of land occupations during the past two months prevents signing an agreement with Germany on the protection of mutual investments, a basic requirement to seeking a way to secure more German investments in Paraguay. A solution to this social problem is a precondition imposed by the German Government for signing the agreement.

The ambassador said: "Unfortunately, there was a new wave of occupations and some cases of expropriations of very small—250- hectare—tracts of land. We hope this problem will be solved in order to sign the agreement on the protection of investments."

Schneppen made it clear that the German Government does not have any problem with signing accords or agreements with our country. He indicated, however, that land occupations is the issue that actually worries German investors. Concerning other fields, the diplomat said: "Germany will always cooperate." Schneppen yesterday signed, in the name of his country, an agreement on cultural cooperation.

Schneppen also indicated that, within the context of the agreement on the protection of investments, an exchange of annex notes was prepared. In these annex notes, the Paraguayan Government commits itself to restoring land or paying compensation to the owners of occupied land.

A solution to land occupations and a guaranteed supply of raw materials for Metallurgic Industries, Inc. (IMSA) are the preconditions imposed by the German Government for signing the aforementioned agreement. [passage omitted]

Parana-Paraguay Waterway Summit Canceled

PY2606215693 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 23 Jun 93 p 21

[Text] The Parana-Paraguay Waterway member countries' head of states summit will not take place in Asuncion on 1 July as previously announced.

The summit would have allowed the presidents of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay to reaffirm the political willingness of their respective governments to build the waterway, particularly considering the advanced state of implementation of the Regional Technical Cooperation Program.

Foreign Minister Alexis Frutos Vaesken said the summit was postponed due to Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora's impossibility to attend due to unavoidable official engagements.

Peru

Government Seeks Negotiations With Villagarcia

PA2506161193 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Peru will seek negotiations with former Captain Enrique Villagarcia and offer a reduction of his sentence in exchange for information on other persons implicated in the $11 million embezzlement case against the Navy. President Alberto Fujimori made the announcement during a visit to Ayacucho.

[Begin recording] [Fujimori] Villagarcia has been sentenced to eight years in jail. The next step to be taken by the Peruvian Government will be negotiations. This is permitted by U.S. laws. Why do we want to negotiate? We need information that will give us additional information on the fraud in order to identify the responsible persons. I do not care who they are. In exchange for this information, Villagarcia could receive a reduction of his sentence. We can negotiate with him now, because he has already been sentenced and he may be interested in a reduction of his sentence, which is possible, as long as he gives us the information. We want to know the names of the persons responsible for this complex case. He is not the only one. We already have some names. The Supreme Military Justice Council must continue working on the case until all those responsible for the embezzlement against the Navy are arrested.

[Unidentified reporter] Has the government requested his extradition?

[Fujimori] That is not urgent right now. The important thing now is to seek an agreement with Villagarcia to obtain more names. [end recording]

To Request Extradition of Navy Officer

PA2506201893 Lima Radio Programas del Peru Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 24 Jun 93

[Report by Enrique Vidal]

[Text] The Peruvian Government will request the extradition of former Captain Enrique Villagarcia, who has been sentenced in the United States to eight years in prison for federal crimes related to embezzlement in the Peruvian Navy Attache's Office in Washington.

Foreign Minister Oscar de la Puente Raygada made the announcement, adding that Villagarcia must be extradited to Peru to answer for a theft of more than $11 million.

[Begin De la Puente recording, broadcast in progress] ...the formula conditioning a reduction of his sentence.

In this case, he did not only receive the highest sentence for the crimes committed; Enrique Villagarcia received an additional two-year sentence because he has refused to cooperate with U.S. authorities or with the lawyers appointed by the Peruvian Government. This was definitely the highest sentence that could be applied and gives the lawyers appointed by the Peruvian Government a wide margin in which to work. The convict will remain at the prison in Virginia for a period of 120 days, during which Peruvian lawyers will be able to conduct interrogations in an attempt to obtain information that Villagarcia has refused to give from the beginning. We are sure we can obtain the information because undoubtedly he will try to obtain a reduction of his sentence, or in any event he will ask for a suspension of the extradition process initiated by the Peruvian Government in accordance with international regulations and treaties. [end recording]

On another subject, De la Puente referred to the appointment of the Peruvian ambassador to Venezuela. He said the Foreign Ministry has already submitted a proposal to the president of the Republic, who will appoint the ambassador in the next few days.

Officers Involvement in La Cantuta Case 'Admitted'

PY2506194593 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 15 Jun 93 p A4

[From the "Unconfirmed" column by Alfonso Baella Tuesta]

[Text] As for the controversy sparked by the comments of General Nicolas Hermoza Rios, president of the Armed Forces Joint Command, before the commission investigating the disappearance of 10 people in La Cantuta University, we include part of the report published on page 4 of the official gazette that is issued by press office of Congress.

"The possibility that some military officers may have participated in La Cantuta case independently and without following any orders was admitted by Nicolas de Bari Hermoza Rios, the Army commander and president of the Armed Forces Joint Command, during a meeting with the Human Rights Commission."

"The general stated, however, that this intervention did not take place following orders of superiors, therefore, the Army is not involved."

Congress Rejects Special Commission Report on La Cantuta

PA2606164993 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1444 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Text] Lima, 26 Jun (EFE)—The ruling majority in the Democratic Constituent Congress (CCD) on 26 June rejected the special commission decision holding the Army responsible for the disappearance of nine students and a professor at La Cantuta University one year ago.

With 39 votes in favor and 13 against, representatives from the ruling Change 90-New Majority alliance rejected the special commission's report and left the case in the hands of the Supreme Military Justice Council.

The CCD majority supported the decision of the minority in the special commission that investigated the disappearances. The minority decision states that there is no evidence to hold the Army responsible for the disappearances, which occurred on 18 July 1992 and was reported before the Congress by the opposition in April 1993.

The special commission's report, signed by opposition Congressmen Roger Caceres of the National Front of Workers and Peasants, Gloria Helfer of the Democratic Left Movement, and Carlos Cuaresma of the Independent Moralization Front blamed the Army for the disappearances.

The report also demanded that Nicolas de Bari Hermoza, Army commanding general and chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, be removed from his post and established presumed political responsibility on the part of Defense Minister General Victor Malca.

The report also concluded that the penal responsibility lies with high military officers and the political responsibility with the CCD majority.

The conclusions were not signed by progovernment Congressmen Gilberto Siura and Jaime Freundt-Thurne, who issued a separate report.

Congressman Carlos Cuaresma said on 26 June that the majority in the special commission confirmed that the nine students and the professor were in La Cantuta University when they disappeared.

It was also established that when the disappearances occurred, La Cantuta University was under military control, as there is a military base there to prevent terrorist infiltration of the campus.

According to Cuaresma, the report issued by progovernment congressmen mentions several hypotheses to justify the disappearances. One of them is that it was a "self-kidnapping," or that the missing students and teacher decided to remain in hiding, or that they were kidnapped by a terrorist group other than the one to which they belong.

Now it is up to military justice to decide what happened in La Cantuta on 18 July 1992.

Congressman Cuaresma Discusses La Cantuta Case

PA2606183093 Lima Radio Programas del Peru Network in Spanish 1329 GMT 26 Jun 93

[Telephone interview with Congressman Carlos Cuaresma, member of the Human Rights Commission investigating the La Cantuta case, by unidentified reporter—live]

[Text] [Reporter] Good morning. We know that the report issued by the majority in the commission that investigated the La Cantuta case was debated on 25 June and that the report was rejected by the Democratic Constituent Congress [CCD] plenum. Could you give us some details on the debates? What arguments were used to reject the majority decision?

[Cuaresma] The majority in the CCD—which was the minority within the special commission that investigated La Cantuta, in other words, New Majority-Change 90—rejected by a majority of votes the conclusions on investigations conducted by congressmen who temporarily became a majority within the commission, but were still a minority within the plenum.

Among the most important conclusions was the confirmation of several facts, such as the preexistence of the missing persons until the day of their disappearance. It was also confirmed that a military base had total control and domain over the area, in other words, of La Cantuta. The possibility that the missing persons could have avoided the controls at the military base and left the university campus, much less in a group, between 2200 and 0600 on the day of the incident was ruled out. In addition, several responsibilities were established in accordance with information obtained from the witnesses, who are relatives of Professor Hugo Munoz and the nine missing students. Presumed responsibilities were established, starting with the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the presidential adviser, as well as other commanders and officers. In sum, those were the conclusions.

The minority in the commission, which is the majority in Congress, argued that it was a self-kidnapping and presented four theories within the conclusions. One theory was that a paramilitary group or a terrorist group of a different ideology was responsible for the disappearances, or that members of the same tendency may have settled their internal differences by eliminating those persons. Another theory was that Professor Munoz and the nine students decided to remain in clandestinity either because of their affinity with terrorist groups or because they were threatened by them.

Those are the conclusions contained in the report signed by Roger Caceres, Gloria Helfer, and me, as well as the report issued by the minority in the commission, signed by Jaime Freundt-Thurne and Gilberto Siura.

[Reporter] In other words, the report issued by the commission's minority does not have any conclusions, only hypotheses rejecting the conclusions in the report issued by the majority.

[Cuaresma] That is correct. In addition, the minority's report stressed that witnesses and their contributions had no value, because according to the minority the witnesses are not impartial and have been hurt by what happened. They have also indirectly presented a strange hypothesis: When someone is kidnapped, the kidnapping must occur before witnesses who are not the victim's relatives or friends, only people whom the victim does not know. Another question remains in the air. They said they would have liked to present the persons responsible on 25 June. In that sense, we ask: What facilities were given to the commission? How can two constitutional articles be interpreted in a simple motion and not through a law as the Constitution states? Someone even brought up a theory involving letterhead to eliminate first of all the witnesses, other persons like General Robles, and the famous COMACA [presumed group of commanders, mayors, and captains] document, which we view as an anonymous document.

[Reporter] All right, Mr. Cuaresma. We completely agree with your criticism of the majority. Nevertheless, the opinion of the Congress minority commission includes some mistakes that unfortunately detract from your valid points. For instance, the commission involves some people who have nothing to do with the La Cantuta incident. What does Defense Minister General Malca have to do with the La Cantuta events?

[Cuaresma] There are several clues. We are not saying that such and such a person was an accomplice or participated in the incident. Instead we use political or criminal clues. I wish to expand a little on the latter. We are not judges. We just gather clues. If this document....

[Reporter, interrupting] Excuse me for interrupting. Don't you think it is necessary to distinguish between the defense minister's political responsibility and the criminal [words indistinct] responsibilities on which you people are making the recommendations?

[Cuaresma] I agree completely. Nevertheless, we should bear in mind that the defense minister in his presentation before the plenum pledged not only to give the investigating commission every necessary assistance but that he himself would cooperate. We were deprived of that possibility, however, because the presence of many leaders and officers who should have testified before the corresponding commission was precluded. That made things impossible.

I would like to recall what happened with the chief of the Joint Command. Maybe it has not been taken into consideration. Personally, I noted Gen. Nicolas de Bari Hermoza's contradictions not only on 20 April, when he virtually kicked the blackboard in anger, not only on 12 June, when he deflected the direction of the investigation, but in what happened at the various Lima criminal

courts, such as the 11th and 14th, when he admitted that there was a raid and then that there was a search. Whether an operation or raid, the chief of the Joint Staff admitted there was a raid or search on 18 July 1992. So who else can know what happened on that date? That piece of information was important for us to summon the other officers who might have contributed to the commission. If that had happened we would not be regretting the results and the way New Majority/Change 90 split last night. I think there was a lack of willingness here to support the commission fully so it could conduct an independent and positive investigation.

[Reporter] From the Congress' and the commission's viewpoint, will the investigation be definitively closed and transferred to military jurisdiction? Will you people follow up on what is done?

[Cuaresma] Both. First, we must democratically accept what has happened. The matter was shelved against both reason and the purpose of a commission that worked with organizational limitations within the human rights commission. It was a special commission that has already passed away. The event will be transferred to military law. Nevertheless, as you said, we will remain alert because we grieve over the deaths. We clearly reject the violent actions perpetrated by Shining Path and the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement. We bet on life and peace.

Fujimori Says Congress Cannot Suggest Hermoza's Replacement

PA2706184693 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0300 GMT 27 Jun 93

[Text] President Alberto Fujimori said the Democratic Constituent Congress has no power to recommend that General Nicolas De Bari Hermoza Rios, commander of Armed Forces Joint Command, be replaced. The president said he was not a commander without power and reiterated his complete trust in Gen. Hermoza and the high military and Police command units engaged in the peace process.

Retired officers of the Police and Armed Forces assembled at the Military Circle to commemorate the 62d anniversary of the association that joins them. President Alberto Fujimori and General Police Director Victor Alba Placencia were invited as special guests to be incorporated as honorary members of the association. The president expressed his recognition of all those who devoted their life to serving the nation and who were witnesses to important historical events. He offered the members a recreation center as a sign of his support.

The president's interest in the Police's work led him to visit the National Intelligence Directorate in the upper neighborhoods, where he observed the officers' working conditions. A few minutes later he walked to the National Criminal Investigation Directorate, which is also near Plaza Italia. He met privately for more than 45 minutes with the Police high command, then held a news conference to reveal the strategy being used in the peace process. Here is what President Fujimori said:

[Begin Fujimori recording] Thanks to that silent and discreet work, we have been able to uncover and totally thwart the attacks planned by Shining Path for the 19th, what they call the day of heroism. We continue to hunt down the main leaders, in this case, practically all from the Peruvian People's Assistance. Next year we will concentrate our efforts on exerting strong pressure on all flanks with war tactics against terrorism, against Shining Path. That means work for the intelligence forces, arrests, and armed confrontations; that is to say, an all out war to defeat Shining Path. Of course this will be complemented by political and ideological work. [end recording]

When questioned on the controversial La Cantuta case, the president affirmed that the CCD has no authority much less the power to suggest a change of Armed Forces' commander of the joint forces.

[Begin Fujimori recording] Neither the Commission nor the CCD has any authority to suggest that the commander of the joint forces be replaced. One is either the supreme chief or a chief without power. I am not the chief of the Armed Forces without power. Rather, I express my support...[pauses] what is more, I extend my congratulations to Gen. Hermoza, to Gen. Alba Placencia, and to all the general commanders and each of the officers' commando units who are carrying out an extraordinary task for the nation's welfare and for the defense of human rights. There is no proof that Gen. Hermoza or the Armed Forces and Police commando units are responsible for those incidents..

I prefer to say the following: Generals Hermoza, Alba Placencia, the Armed Forces and the Police commanders, and each and every officer are responsible for Peru's success in the war we are waging against terrorists. I know that hurts the politicians who have been in power for many years and have done absolutely nothing from their executive or legislative positions. That is why I do not give any importance to those criticisms. We will continue to work efficiently. [end recording]

It is now necessary, the president added, to begin a psychological counterattack in favor of the Armed Forces and the National Police because the enemy must not be given respite. Before ending his talk with the reporters, President Fujimori asserted that the culprits responsible for whatever happened to the La Cantuta professor and nine students will be found and sentenced in strict accordance with the law. The president returned to the Government Palace immediately upon concluding the news conference..

Abduction, 'Possible Murder' of Students, Professor Viewed

PY2506184093 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 14 Jun 93 p 3

[Text] This weekend the constituent congressional commission investigating the abduction and possible murder of nine students and one professor of the Enrique Guzman y Valle University, in La Cantuta, will end its work.

It was disclosed that there will be three different rulings, one from the opposition signed by Gloria Helfer Palacios (Leftist Democratic Movement) and Carlos Cuaresma (Independent Moralization Front); another issued by government representatives and signed by Gilberto Siura Cespedes and Jaime Freundt; and the third by Roger Caceres Velasquez, president of the commission.

The first ruling states that the abduction was carried out by a military commando presumably of the National Intelligence Service.

The second is clearly exculpatory and hands the case over to the Military Court. This second report suggests that it is a case of self-abduction, in other words, that the professor and the students may be militants of the Shining Path who decided to go underground.

Roger Caceres Velasquez's ruling refers to the difficulties encountered by the commission investigating the case, especially because it was unable to interview the military officers directly involved.

It suggests that the judicial branch carry out an exhaustive investigation regardless of the proceedings also being carried out by the Supreme Court of Military Justice.

Relatives of the students and the professor have asked the Judicial Branch to investigate the case. Despite the time that has elapsed since the request was filed, the case is still unsolved.

The relatives filed several charges directly accusing the military officers on duty at the university last July.

General Nicolas de Bari Hermoza Rios, president of the Armed Forces Joint Command, admitted before the court that a military operation was carried out at the mentioned university at dawn on 18 July 1992, the day of the abductions.

Hermoza later denied to the Constituent Congress commission investigating the case that the operation took place.

When Hermoza refuted his statement he furiously berated the opposition legislators whom he almost accused of being accomplices of terrorism.

Importance, Future of Draft Constitution Discussed

PY2506214393 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 14 Jun 93 p A4

[From the "Without Confirmation" column by Alfonso Baella]

[Text] The Democratic Constituent Congress' Constitutional Committee will take an important step on 15 June when it places the second draft of the future constitution in the hands of Peruvian Academy of Language President Luis Jaime Cisneros, to give the document "cleanness and splendor."

Acting Constitutional Committee President Enrique Chirino will hand in the document at 1100.

The ceremony will take place at the former Senate auditorium now used for the committee's sessions.

But we should not think that once this process is fulfilled the document will be ready for promulgation and taking effect.

No. There is still a long way to go.

First, the Constitutional Committee still must finish pending articles, which are close to 12. Then we will have a major debate in Congress, where the entire text will be revised, seeking to improve it.

This means important amendments still could be introduced.

For instance, the possibility (if the immediate reelection proposal succeeds) of reducing the presidential and legislative terms to four years and increasing municipal government terms to a similar period is still open.

There are many other reform proposals on different aspects that still can be included in the Constitution before it is submitted to a plebiscite by the people, as the highest jury, to approve or reject it.

Commentator Views Draft Constitution

PY2506220093 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 11 Jun 93 p A27

[Second installment of series: "The Constitution" by Carlos Torres y Torres-Lara]

[Text] Concerning political reforms, the draft constitution's main objective is to achieve a proper balance of power.

There are two major systems of governments in the world: the presidential system, with a president elected by the people and a parliament that operates as a legislative branch; and the parliamentary system of government, in which—usually—the executive branch, the council of ministers, and even the president are elected by the legislative branch.

Ours is neither a presidentialist nor a parliamentary system of government. In fact, we have ministers, a Council of Ministers, a Council of Ministers president, and the possibility of censuring the ministers, like in the European parliamentary system. But at the same time, the president is elected by the people and not by Congress, like in the United States and Latin America.

We have a conflicting combination of both systems, a combination that generally leads to a coup d'etat as the only solution. And this is not a mere opinion but a fact. Can we continue to live like this? No. We should choose the American presidentialist or the European parliamentary system, or—and this is even more difficult—improve an intermediate system.

There are few countries with intermediate systems, which is called semi-presidentialist. An important reference in this regard is France, which has made substantial progress and had great stability, and whose government has been much more stable than the other European governments. De Gaulle broke and modified the existing parliamentary system, establishing a new Constitution with a new balance of power and obtaining positive results.

One of the powers the French president can exercise is to order the partial dissolution of Congress in case of a serious conflict between the executive branch and Congress. The solution is to consult the people in a new election. This is a legal solution, not a forceful solution like a coup. The president does not need anyone's approval, and he can enforce this measure once every other year.

The Peruvian draft constitution sets forth that the president may, only once during his term, partially dissolve Congress (20 percent of Congress members will stay as temporary supervisors) in case of a conflict that, in the president's opinion, is unresolvable. The constitution sets forth that the president may not enforce this measure in the first or last year of his term in office, and that the new Congress—which will have to approve the new program of government—may censure the Council of Ministers that authorized the measure.

Consequently, since Congress will have the power to censure the ministers and replace all the Council of Ministers members (a power that congresses in most countries of the Americas do not have), the president also should have a balancing power to partially remove Congress, like in European countries or France. It should be noted that the Peruvian president does have this power, but it is subject to one condition—the censuring of three cabinets—a condition that is impossible to meet.

It is necessary to choose a stable system. Congress should not have the authority to censure ministers and the president the authority to dissolve Congress, or both should have the same power to dissolve the other. The draft constitution has chosen the second alternative, although any alternative is admissible because both are better than what we currently have.

A reform to balance the government branches' power will only be possible if the cabinet and Congress are granted more power, and if we can achieve an adequate municipal decentralization. The draft constitution grants the government more responsibilities at the cabinet level (for instance, granting the cabinet power to approve the so-called urgent decrees, which are classified as laws).

Congress will be strengthened if it has a single chamber. When Congress has two chambers, conflicts between them are permanent. The juridical theory says that one chamber checks the excesses of the other chamber, but this theory has been overcome by a new political reality. The theory says that only Congress can issue laws and the executive branch can only implement them. But the case is that in the past 50 years the great producer of regulations with the force of law in France, Italy, Spain, or Peru has been the executive branch. Of course, the executive branch must be supervised to prevent excesses. Therefore, we need a dynamic and efficient Congress.

The other basic reform refers to power decentralization. The draft constitution proposes going beyond the present regionalization process and increasing decentralization by assigning resources directly to district and provincial municipalities, giving them the necessary freedom to join forces and develop regional projects.

Decentralization now will follow local initiatives. We will overcome the bureaucratic regionalization and begin a dynamic regionalization. Provinces will be able to decide—through a referendum—with which other provinces they will join forces to implement common projects. Decentralization will, therefore, operate at a more basic level—at the level of district and provincial municipalities—according to present jurisdictions, and through regional actions developed by the provinces' joint initiative.

Municipalities will join forces, following the initiative of their towns and according to their needs, in regional organizations of specific action, that is, with a flexible and entrepreneurial purpose, not with a bureaucratic purpose. The idea is to gradually transfer the largest possible number of ministerial functions to municipalities. Ministries will only keep functions that cannot be delegated (foreign relations, defense, economy, labor).

The decentralization will be affected by two essential economic factors: Municipalities will be able to create contributions, taxes, and rights freely up to the ceiling established by national laws (a previous law will not be required); and the draft constitution eliminates the prohibition on municipalities receiving local or foreign credits.

This decentralization is, therefore, an essential change from the grass roots and not something imposed from above—a transformation from the corporate system to a model of free and efficient cooperation.

Commentator Views Economic Reforms in Draft Constitution

PY2506223793 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 14 Jun 93 p A23

[Third installment of series: "The Constitution" by Carlos Torres y Torres-Lara]

[Text] Peru can no longer live with a constitution based on social-democratic principles that had their importance, opportunity, and moment for more than a century but have grown obsolete due to world developments. In a competitive, integrated, internationalized world one cannot not make any progress with the belief that the state must solve almost all social problems.

What must be promoted is the idea of personal actions and mutual assistance between the citizenry in order to solve social problems, leaving the state in charge of basic needs (health, education, safety, and infrastructure). This will give the people a sense of self-fulfillment, turning them into the owners of their own future and the generators of job opportunities.

In the economic field the world today is liberal. The change that has taken place is so great that countries have turned into provinces. Peru must be objective and acknowledge the world reality, that is, the market economy and the consolidation of markets and national efforts. The world today is one of business efforts, technology, and training; a world in which Peru is absent and neglected.

Therefore, we must develop a liberal system that also will have a social sense. If we must give it a name, we could call it social modernization or liberalism. Why call it social liberalism? Because what the draft constitution intends is not a liberalism for the powerful, because they are above the laws; not because they cannot modify them but because they choose the country where to invest and develop.

Social liberalism should not be understood as freedom only for large capital to grow but, namely, as a tool to free our country's productive forces and defend them from monopolies. This is the purpose it pursues. Therefore, the economic plan states that the state must channel its resources toward basic issues, aid those who have less resources, and, at the same time, struggle against the monopolies' abuses.

For this, mercantilism must be eliminated, that is, the policy of favors through which each group obtains the best position not to have to compete. As stated in the draft constitution, there will be no more benefits than those established by the constitution (for example, free education for those who cannot afford to pay for it). Let us not become distributors of favors nor let politicians try to come to power to favor their group or enterprises, because rules must be the same for all, for the most powerful and the most modest.

Therefore, a radical reform, which is contained in this draft bill, is necessary: We must restore the power of the contracts that are grounds for the peoples' relationship, commitments, and rights. If we grant contracts power, we will have made substantial progress. What has happened in Peru in this regard? Every time a situation that seems unfair surfaces, a law to modify this situation is approved.

A typical example is leasing contracts. The latest statistics reveal that a high percentage of houses are empty because their owners know that if they lease them, the leasing laws might change the contract and end up favoring the tenants.

The majority might applaud this but we have created a very serious conflict. Although this might be fair for the great majority, what about the widow who lives on the rent of the house inherited from her late husband, or the sick person who rented his home and goes to live in a small apartment to buy his medicine with the rent obtained for his house, and so on?

A law never provides for specific cases, therefore, the full validity of contracts must be established, mentioning in the draft constitution that the state cannot issue laws that modify the contracts. This will safeguard the deals. And what about the injustices that may have been committed in a contract? They cannot be amended by a comprehensive law but rather by the judicial branch, in other words, through a compensation mechanism that exists when an excessively onerous leasing contract is signed.

Therefore, the injustices that may surface in the relationship between two people through a contract must be amended one by one and not generalizing the rules based on the political power ruling at the time. If not, who will come to invest in a country where the rules established in the contract may be changed at any moment?

Therefore, the most important thing is an economy that allows the free development of the micro, small, and medium enterprise through a system that offers guarantees to generate job opportunities.

Commentator Analyzes Draft Constitution

PY2606141993 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 6 Jun 93 p A19

[First installment of series: "The Constitution" by Carlos Torres y Torres-Lara]

[Text] We have worked very hard the past four months, not to show the population "a draft Constitution representing the views of one political group," but in order to propose a draft Constitution that already has the important support of various political sectors. The debate required the analysis of approximately 700 items during more than 80 working sessions.

During this debate there was consensus with one or another group in the discussion of 88.3 percent of the

topics. The majority bloc voted alone in only 11.7 percent of the cases. We must note the consensus we had with the leftist parties on social reform issues and with conservative political parties on issues involving economic reform. If the alliance New Majority-Change 90 had not participated in the Constituent Congress there would have been less consensus because the coalition reached agreement on an average of 47 percent of the issues. No other political groups reached that percentage of agreement among themselves.

We are now showing citizens our first proposal, which was prepared as a draft in order to hear people's opinions and then make the necessary corrections. This proposal should not be seen as a finished project being imposed on the country, but as a document that is being worked out by all citizens. We call on the people to participate with a critical and constructive spirit.

Why a New Constitution?

The most accurate answer is that deep changes have been occurring in Peru and the world. A new Constitution must face these new circumstances head on. We needed to elaborate a legal document in accordance with Peru's efforts of economic integration with the world and in line with the crisis affecting our country, including the end of the war against subversion and terrorism, ethnic discriminations, drug trafficking, and the moral degradation of many sections of society.

A Multi-Ethnic and Multi-Cultural Country

It is necessary to elaborate a new Constitution considering Peru as a multi-ethnic and multi-cultural country because, contrary to what many people believe, the European culture has not erased our Indian origin, we cannot revive our Indian civilization, and we are not yet a mestizo country. However, we are in the process of becoming one.

Our reality has been different. Peru was not like other American countries where the European culture found fertile soil for its free development, because there were no other cultures in place. Europeans arriving here found an aboriginal culture thousands of years old that astonished the entire world. The two greatest world civilizations of that time met on our territory 500 years ago.

Such a meeting could only produce friction and a giant wave that has yet to be controlled, but which is projecting us, in the process of creating a mestizo people, to a future where this great melting pot will unite the two cultures. This is why the draft Constitution envisions Peru as a multi-ethnic and multi-cultural country. We must equally respect the European and Indian cultures because they are at the root of the nationality we are forging and which will contribute to ending the social, ethnical, and economic discrimination that have segregated large sectors of our population for too many years.

The draft Constitution begins by establishing, for instance, that all Peruvians have the right to express themselves in their own language. Peruvian citizens who only speak Quechua or Aymara cannot be refused service at any public office. They must be served in their own language; not accepting this is and has been discrimination.

The Changes

The future Constitution proposes three great changes in the social, political, and economic fields.

The chapter on individual's rights repeats what is established in the current Constitution adding new concepts to support the integration of our population. The draft Constitution, for instance, establishes the right of individuals to present legislative initiatives, which is the right of citizens to present draft bills to Congress. Representative democracy is thus combined with direct democracy in order to overcome the existing discrimination.

We have also established the people's right to dismiss authorities. Citizens must feel that they not only have the right to elect authorities but also the right to dismiss them through the courts. The people must know that immoral or incompetent officials can be removed from their post through a consultation system.

Another proposed citizens' right is the referendum because certain vital items should not be decided by political groups alone. Citizens must also be consulted.

We also established the right of individuals to obtain information, which is not the right to report—a right used by the media that is respected in Peru—but the right of citizens to receive information from public institutions through a proceeding called habeas data. The authors believe that "power derives from information," just as Mao Zedong believed that "power derived from bullets."

The essential point here is the right to privacy. Computer technology is developing vertiginously in today's world and new mechanisms are being created to collect information and data that could eventually affect personal privacy. For instance, an individual's physical illness or religious or political ideas are private matters that should not be aired among the people in general.

Another proposed right is the people's right to elect their justices of the peace, and in some cases, their lower level judges. The idea is to integrate the population with their judicial branch so that judges feel they are making rulings for their own people and so that people can see in their judges not a special social class but their own neighbors (duly qualified citizens elected to the post). This will be very important, particularly in towns located far from the capital.

Editorial Labels Timetable for New Constitution 'Hasty'

PY2506213093

[Editorial Report] Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish on 14 June on page A2 carries an editorial entitled "Hasty Timetable" criticizing the government's Change 90-New Majority in the Democratic Constituent Congress for approving a deadline of 28 July for promulgating the new constitution "against all logic and disregarding precise observations by the minority in Congress."

The editorial says: "It is obvious that the established timetable is short and insufficient, and there is no valid reason for this haste. This is a self-imposed deadline that not only goes against the needed seriousness and deliberation for such a delicate work that requires profound study and dedication, but that is also physically impossible to meet."

The editorial also points out that it is hoped that after the Constitutional Committee's speedy work, Congress will take the necessary time for reflection and analysis beyond an inflexible and rigid timetable. This is necessary, taking into account that the articles already approved are "disorderly, lack organization and doctrine, and have fancy amendments to current articles that have proven effective."

Uruguay

Opinion Poll Views Government, Ministry Popularity

PY2506135993

[Editorial Report] Montevideo LA MANANA in Spanish on 13 June reports on page 8 that a recent public opinion poll was conducted on the way Uruguayans view the performance of the government and its ministries. It reveals that "the only ministry that fared well was the Tourism Ministry, which obtained the endorsement of 60.5 percent of those polled."

The other approval rates are as follows: the government, 8.8 percent; the Interior Ministry, 27.6 percent; the Economy Ministry, 8.8 percent; the Foreign Ministry, 30.7 percent; the Defense Ministry, 17.1 percent; the Industry Ministry, 14.4 percent; the Tourism Ministry, 60.5 percent; the Public Health Ministry, 8.3 percent; the Labor Ministry, 8.5 percent; the Education Ministry, 12.7 percent; the Housing Ministry, 11.5 percent; the Transport and Public Works Ministry, 38.5 percent, and the Livestock Ministry, 16.3 percent.

Venezuela

New Defense Minister Outlines Objectives for Armed Forces

PA2606132993 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 2350 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Report by Cecilia Pachano]

[Text] President Juan J. Velasquez said approval of the enabling legislation has not been delayed, but the issue is very delicate and requires many consultations. He told the media that the cabinet will decide on the points to be included in the legislation at the 28 June cabinet meeting. President Velasquez also said he agreed with the statements by the outgoing and incoming defense ministers on the need to restructure and adapt the Armed Forces in accordance with the country's new situation.

The officers had presented their recommendations during the Defense Ministry's change of command ceremony, which was attended by the cabinet and top military command members. General Ivan Dario Jimenez assessed his work and emphasized the support he had always given to constitutional order and the preservation of democracy. Vice Admiral Radames Munoz Leon, the new defense minister, outlined his objectives: social welfare, democratic stability, defense of sovereignty, and the struggle against drugs and corruption.

[Begin Munoz recording] I want to state very clearly that we respect and do not object to the responsibilities that the Constitution and laws grant to certain members of the Attorney General's Office. However, I do not think we are relieved of responsibility for security and defense, which guarantee institutional stability, internal order, and the total exercise and safeguarding of our sovereignty. On the contrary, we are obliged to exercise our duties and establish our position on internal and international matters. [end recording]

The vice admiral noted further that he had not received a request to arraign Gen. Sergio Salvatierra, the current Armed Forces comptroller general. Court Martial President Ubaldo Lopez confirmed that information.

[Begin recording] [Lopez] The court martial has no information on what the newspapers reported on 25 June.

[Unidentified reporter] You mean you have not received a request to try the current comptroller general?

[Lopez] The court martial has no information about that. The Defense Ministry can give you information on the matter. [end recording]

The new minister's speech naturally broached the topic of the officers involved in the coup attempt. He asked them to have confidence in the law and also asked the officers who are abroad to return to the country and face justice.